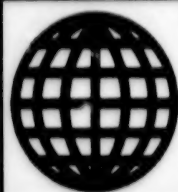


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27 OCTOBER 1989



**FOREIGN
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JPRS Report

Near East & South Asia

Near East & South Asia

JPRS-NEA-89-069

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Arab Funds to Developing Countries Detailed

90OL0016b Doha AL-RAYAH in Arabic 6 Sep 89 p 5

[Article: "Developing Countries Received \$26 Billion in Arab Aid, According to the Uniform Arab Economic Report for 1989"]

[Excerpt] Arab development aid, and specifically intra-Arab bilateral aid, is one of the distinguishing characteristics of the Arab economy.

The Uniform Arab Economic Report for 1989 revealed the dimension of Arab development aid and the degree to which economic variables impact on it.

The characteristics of such aid have been detailed in the Uniform Arab Economic Report for 1989 which we summarize below.

Aggregate world capital flows have consistently been shrinking since 1982 as a result of fiscal and economic developments impacting the world economy since the beginning of the 80s. There has been a change in the relative importance of the components of such flows. Government development aid doubled while international bank loans and export credits sharply declined.

Government development aid is of increasing importance to developing countries in face of rare capital resources, external debt service pressures, political commitment to development, and the demands of economic reform policies and programs. Government aid finances development on easy terms and offers soft loans for development purposes as well as gifts and donations for the same purpose by the government of the donor to the government of the recipient country.

Arab Aid

Arab bilateral and multilateral development aid is characterized with such easy terms as lower interest rates and longer grace and repayment periods than is generally available commercially. Arab aid is also unconditional, therefore allowing the recipient an opportunity to utilize it and manage it at lower costs with higher flexibility in line with its development plans and economic reform policies.

The donors, despite difficult economic conditions resulting from lower oil prices and revenues, have continued to offer sister and friendly developing nations as much development aid as their resources would allow. OPEC aid has consisted entirely of Arab development aid since other members of that organization halted their assistance, specifically since 1987.

Arab donor countries have continued to extend financial aid to Arab and non-Arab developing nations. This aid amounted in 1987 to about \$3,284 million in soft development assistance to help recipients with external liquidity and bolster their development efforts.

Aggregate Arab soft development aid to developing countries amounted to some \$26.4 million in the 1982-87 period, which suffered sharp drops in oil prices. Oil revenues are the donors' main source of foreign exchange and enable them to finance budgets, imports, and assistance to other countries. That period was also marked by an escalating Iraq-Iran war that had a negative impact on the economic activity and financial resources of countries in the region.

It is worth mentioning that the ratio of Arab development aid to the oil revenues of major donors increased during that period from 6.1 percent in 1982 to 14.5 percent in 1987. As oil revenues dropped by 27 percent from 1982 to 1987, development assistance in 1987 represented 46 percent of what it was in 1982. [as published]

It is to be pointed out that Arab soft aid, which was initiated prior to 1982, reached a total of \$83.8 billion in the 1975-87 period. Of that, 9.2 percent was granted in the first half of the 70s, 38 percent in the second half of the 70s, 39 percent in the first half of the 80s, and 13.8 percent in the 1985-1987 period.

The Arab countries and those of the socialist bloc, having contributed 90 percent of government assistance, are the largest donors of such aid outside members of the Development Assistance Committee [DAC]. Arab countries accounted for 49.2 percent and socialist bloc countries accounted for 42.8 percent of such aid in the 1982-87 period.

Arab Donors

Under the impact of the oil crisis and the Iraq-Iran war, sources of Arab aid during the past few years were limited to a few countries, specifically Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. Aid by other Arab donors dropped sharply. Certain countries even experienced negative net remittances.

In 1987, Saudi Arabia accounted for 88.5 percent, and Kuwait accounted for 9.6 percent, of Arab aid. With Qatari and UAE [United Arab Emirates] contributions, Gulf Cooperation Council states accounted for 98.8 percent of total Arab aid that year. Saudi Arabia assumed the lead in the 1982-87 period by contributing 73.3 percent of total Arab aid, vis-a-vis 18.9 percent for Kuwait. The GCC [Gulf Cooperation Council] states, including Qatar and the UAE, therefore accounted for about 97 percent of all Arab aid during that period. The balance was contributed by Algeria and Libya. The Saudi and Kuwaiti contributions are therefore major determinants of the volume and geographic distribution of Arab aid.

Beneficiaries

Arab countries were beneficiaries of nearly 45 percent of Arab development aid in 1987. Asian countries received about 35 percent of Arab aid in the same year, with about 10 percent going to African countries and one percent to European nations, (aid is not limited in regard to destination). That was a continuation of the trend in the 1984-87 period when 55 percent of Arab aid went to

Arab countries, 26 percent to Asian countries, and 15 percent to African countries. The balance benefited certain European and Latin American states.

Five Arab countries received 88 percent of Arab aid to Arab states in 1987. Syria's share was 34 percent, Jordan's 23 percent, Sudan's 12 percent, and Tunisia's 10 percent, whereas North Yemen received 9 percent. Modest shares of the balance went to Egypt, Algeria, Iraq, Lebanon, Morocco, Democratic Yemen, Mauritania, and Djibouti.

Arab aid to Arab states in the period 1984-87 was distributed 27.5 percent to Syria, 22.7 percent to Jordan, 10 percent to Tunisia, 9 percent to Sudan, and 7 percent to North Yemen. Syria and Jordan therefore received 25 percent of aggregate Arab aid to developing nations, and 50 percent of total Arab aid to Arab states during that period.

The volume and distribution of Arab aid is expected to change with the expiration of the support mandated by the 1987 Baghdad summit to Syria, Jordan, and Palestine, and with the restoration of diplomatic relations between Egypt and most of the Arab states and the resumption of its memberships in Arab development institutions and funds.

Aid Indicators

The share of Arab aid supplied by multilateral organizations dropped sharply from \$634 million in 1985 and \$639 million in 1986 to \$358 million in 1987.

Bilateral assistance is considered the main component of Arab aid, accounting for about 83 percent, 86 percent, and 89 percent consecutively for the years 1985 to 1987. By contrast, the share of multilateral organizations dropped from 17 percent to 11 percent over the same period. This is attributed to the decline of capital flows to Arab development institutions, such as the Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development, primarily because their capitals have been fully subscribed.

Recipients generally consider bilateral aid to be more flexible because it is mostly in the form of grants and

general budget financing, and is not tied to specific development projects in need of conducting and submitting technical and feasibility studies as generally required by multilateral organizations. On the other hand, aid extended by multilateral organizations is long-range, associated more with development activity with direct impact on improving the economic performance of the concerned country.

Aid and the Product

Major Arab donors, especially in the Arab Gulf, consistently contribute the highest ratio of aid to gross domestic product.

On that basis, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait are the world's leading donors. Saudi Arabia donated 3.9 percent of the gross domestic product [GDP] in 1987, and Kuwait contributed 1.3 percent of GDP.

Aid contributed by GCC states amounted to 2.6 percent of GDP in 1987—seven times the 0.7-percent ratio of aid contributed by the DAC committee of the Economic Cooperation and Development Organization, which maintained that ratio of aid to GDP throughout the 1970-1987 period, therefore contributing only half of the 0.7-percent ratio of aid to GDP targeted for well-to-do countries.

Arab Grants

Arab bilateral and multilateral development aid is distinctive by its easy terms—easier with bilateral aid than with aid from multilateral organizations. The reason is that bilateral aid generally supports state budgets and includes a large component of grants. Aid by multilateral organizations, on the other hand, is usually in the form of loans to specific development projects.

Figures indicate that grants from major donor states accounted for some 88.5 percent of Arab bilateral aid in FY 1984/85 while donations accounted for 78.7 percent. Grants as a component of loans by national and regional Arab development institutions for the 1979-85 period ranged from 40 percent for the Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Economic Development to 58 percent for the Islamic Development Bank. [passage omitted]

Development Aid and Oil Revenues

Year	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
Oil Revenues (in billions of \$)	82.4	54.9	47.3	37.2	24.9	22.2
Aggregate Revenues	100	66.6	57.4	45.1	30.4	26.9
Development Aid (in billions of \$)	5.02	4.26	4.21	3.4	4.23	3.22
Total Aid	100	84.9	83.9	67.7	84.3	64.1
Percentage Ratio of Aid to Revenues	6.1	6.8	8.9	9.1	17	14.5

REGIONAL AFFAIRS

Israel Reportedly Tries To Exchange Prisoners With Egypt

45000013 London AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 2 Oct 89 p 5

[Text] The Egyptian Interior Ministry has made it known that authorities have been able to seize \$300,000 in counterfeit American dollars over the past 3 months in the possession of Israeli tourists trying to smuggle them into Egypt. Eight Israeli tourists were arrested at the beginning of September with \$10,000 worth of counterfeit dollars in their possession.

Also, the Egyptian Government has refused a request from the Israeli Embassy in Cairo to arrive at an Egyptian-Israeli agreement to exchange suspects and prisoners. This request is tied to Israeli Government efforts to free Israeli smuggler Yusuf Tahhan, who was arrested by Egyptian authorities 4 years ago after four kg of heroin were discovered in his possession.

The Cairo court has issued a decision to execute Tahhan, but this ruling has not yet been carried out.

Numayri Letter Linked To Support for Sudan's al-Bashir

45040533b Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 19 Sep 89 p 8

[Article by Tariq Hasan: "What Is Behind Numayri's Letter?"]

[Excerpts] Last week, former Sudanese president Ja'far Numayri returned to make a public political move and addressed a precautionary letter to General 'Umar al-Bashir, chairman of the Sudan's ruling military council. The letter concerned three basic issues:

- The ruling military group's isolation from the masses of the Sudanese people.
- The irresolution and shakiness of the ruling military council's foreign moves.
- The need for the presence of an international force to oversee the solution in the South and for neutral territory for the negotiations with Garang; the letter proposed Egypt.

[passage omitted]

Observers therefore believe that the letter's intent was to send a definite message to the new Sudanese leadership and that it was no accident. The timing of Numayri's move and his letter may have been carefully planned to intersect with a series of circumstances and developments surrounding the new regime on the domestic, Arab, regional, and international levels.

Furthermore, it is no secret that Cairo, which is playing host to Numayri, is in the process of reevaluating the Sudanese situation and that its current position is no longer as warm as was its immediate support of the coup. One thing in the Egyptian position that may strengthen

new developments is Cairo's refusal, according to American sources, of the Sudanese government's request to buy military airplanes. Sources have interpreted this as meaning that Cairo does not want them to be used against the southerners.

Egypt is a country interested in Sudanese conditions to the furthest extent. Its current position may be due to continued questions about the new regime's relation to the Islamic Front and the complication of a solution in the South following cancellation of the 16 November peace agreement by General 'Umar al-Bashir's government. It may also be in light of international positions that see the need for a rapid return of civilian life to Khartoum.

Whatever the case may be, the stand that the ruling military council takes regarding Numayri's letter will inevitably throw light on the kind of relation between the new regime and Cairo in the immediate future. How the letter is answered will also define the extent to which the regime is dealing with the issues the letter raised and its position on them. It may also reveal a difference of views among the regime's members.

That may be one of the letter's objectives and the reason for sending it directly to General 'Umar al-Bashir, rather than addressing the Sudanese people, as Numayri did in the case of al-Sadiq al-Mahdi before 30 June.

One notes that the issues and directives contained in the letter certainly have their purposes and considerations. They represent basic aspects of the foreign and domestic reserve toward the new regime. Some people therefore tend to believe that Numayri's letter has plainly clarified the green and red lines of the new Sudanese regime's moves, both at home and abroad.

PALESTINIAN AFFAIRS

Economic Infrastructure of Palestinian State Analyzed

44230171a Tel Aviv MA'ARIV
in Hebrew 25 Jul 89 pp 6, 7

[Article by Shefi Gabai: "A State Without an Infrastructure"]

[Text] During the Sixth Congress of the National Palestinian Fund, which took place recently in Kuwait, fund chairman Jawid al-'Azzin asked: "If a Palestinian state were established in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, would this state be able to exist from an economic point of view? Would it be able to handle economic and social difficulties in such a way as to allow it to withstand the test of statehood without becoming the sidekick of some other country in the region? And, what are the conditions that will allow such a state to exist under any circumstances?"

In effect, this was a rhetorical question, because it was al-'Azzin's intention to warn that the Palestinians who had done so in so many areas, have not to this day done anything to concretize an economic plan of any sort for

the purpose of establishing the state they desire. The chairman of the Palestinian Fund rejected claims from economic researchers, Palestinian and Arab, that this decisive period in the history of the Palestinians is not the time to be dealing with marginal issues, but that they must concentrate only on the diplomatic momentum. "Perhaps the researchers are relying on the monies that reach the fund which I head, based on contributions from the Palestinian people, on taxes collected from all Palestinian workers in Arab countries and on grants we receive from international institutions. But I want it to be clear that the fund's monies would not suffice to support the refugee camps in Lebanon for even 1 month."

According to statistics gathered by the PLO recently, the number of Palestinians in the world has reached 5 million, of whom 45.1 percent are refugees. A similar number, close to 45 percent, live in the occupied territories; the rest live within Israel's borders—the Arabs call them "1948 Palestinians." Another study, recently conducted by the Saudi weekly AL-MAJALLAH published in London, claims that a significant portion of the Palestinians scattered throughout the Arab and western world are well established from an economic point of view. According to the editors of the study, this group does not intend to take advantage of the "right of return" to a Palestinian state, were it to be established. However, they would certainly contribute from their rich business experience to the first economic steps of the "state." Similarly, most of the "1948 Palestinians" are well established and among them are thousands of renowned businessmen.

The AL-MAJALLAH survey emphasizes that given the natural proliferation of the Palestinians, they are likely to number, according to expert opinions, 9 million within the next 10 years. The continued growth in population is especially felt among refugees in camps, who intend to take full advantage of the "right of return." According to advertisements by the UN Agency for Welfare and Employment, which is taking care of Palestinian refugees, the number of refugees living in the 10 camps in Jordan is approximately 823,000; the 10 camps in Syria house approximately 251,000; and there are approximately 272,000 refugees in 13 camps in Lebanon. In the rest of the Arab countries, the refugee camps were destroyed years ago.

In Egypt, there is a large concentration of Palestinians, most of whom own big businesses and live in wealthy neighborhoods. Some have established modern printing plants, others acquired large, fancy clothing stores on the main streets of Cairo and Alexandria. Other distinguished Palestinians control tourist businesses, obviously in cooperation with local investors. In Egypt, it is said that all of the vegetable concessions in the country are in the hands of the Palestinians. Also, every third grocery store is under Palestinian ownership.

Palestinian businesses in Iraq are no smaller than their counterparts in Egypt. Many Palestinians, who are employed as experts in various fields in Saudi Arabia

and the rest of the Arab Emirates, have brought luxury apartments with money accumulated during the time of great prosperity caused by high oil prices.

The Kuwaiti daily AL-QABAS once declared that a very worrisome phenomenon existed in Jordanian refugee camps—the new generation of Palestinians, employed at various jobs throughout the world, had accumulated money, returned to their parents' shack, but did not stay for long. They were buying or building their own beautiful apartments like any other Jordanian citizen. The newspaper claimed that in a few years there would no longer be a Palestinian refugee problem in Jordan. This "virus" would also, in the newspaper's eyes, attack young Palestinians in other camps.

In Lebanon, not all Palestinians live in camps. Many have established businesses and have purchased spacious apartments for themselves and their families. Notwithstanding, the economic problem of a "Palestinian State" still remains. Many in the Palestinian hierarchy ask the question—will a state, if it were established, be able to absorb large numbers of refugees and at the same time care for the existing population in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip? The estimated population in the territories today numbers approximately 1,400,000—approximately 650,000 in the Gaza Strip and approximately 750,000 in the West Bank.

Some Palestinian economic researchers, who recently tried to deal with the economic question, presented optimistic scenarios. The researchers—Dr Walid al-Khalidi, George 'Asusah, Yusuf Bandaq, and William Tuma—explain that there exist in the world, albeit with many problems, numerous very poor countries, large and small, such as African nations which just received their independence in recent decades. "None of these nations have fallen apart due to economic reasons," the researchers claim.

The studies emphasize that these independent countries knew how to develop their economic goals based on experience and according to the possibilities that were available to them. Although many of them have economic crises, the reasons for this are not inherent in the countries themselves but the result of the international economic order and the struggle among large and local powers.

The authors of the studies even claim, relying on the history of "emerging countries," that the economic question did not come up in the course of the struggle that was waged for their independence. The Palestinian researchers believe that a Palestinian state will not be cut off from brother Arab countries or the world in general. They speak about a close network of relations that will link it to the Arab world, ties that may over time almost reach the level of a union. A Palestinian state will be established as part of a broader movement, and will most likely reap the benefits of regional development plans.

It is true that there is a paucity of natural resources in the territory they believe will be designated for the Palestinian state, much like in the territory of Israel, but they feel that Palestinian human resources will fill this gap.

Many Palestinians have achieved high levels of scientific knowledge, have excellent skills, and have acquired experience in successful development enterprises.

Another study conducted by the faculty of economics at the University of Cairo, several paragraphs of which were published in Egyptian newspapers, explains that the "State of Palestine," willingly or not, will continue to be tied on the one side with Israel and on the other side with the Arab world, mainly Jordan, almost under the same conditions that existed prior to the outbreak of the intifadah [uprising]. The study points out that the West Bank and the Gaza Strip lack resources and that their economy would be based on agricultural exports to Israel and the Arab world, as well as on light industry. The PLO will surely move its industries, some of which are large and which are today scattered throughout the Arab, Islamic, and European countries, to the West Bank-Gaza Strip region. However, these industries are not capable of absorbing masses of workers. In the past, the PLO established a very respectable industrial infrastructure in Lebanon that employed many bread winners from among the refugees in the camps. But Israel destroyed this infrastructure during the war in Lebanon.

Officially, however, the Palestinian leadership rejects any future economic tie with Israel. In an article that appeared in the Cairo publication AL-MANAR, PLO leaders are quoted as having said that in their state they will work toward socioeconomic Palestinian independence so as not to become Israel's sidekick.

All gates, however, will be open to the Arab world. It is for this reason that the PLO hierarchy instructed the intifadah leaders in the territories to cut off all economic contact with Israel even now. They instructed the residents to boycott Israel's products and make do with local agricultural industrial output. This instruction was intended to help the people prepare for and become accustomed to an independent Palestinian economy in the future. Notwithstanding, the PLO did allow the leadership of the uprising to permit the passage of workers from the territories into Israel, given the knowledge that it would be difficult to find them work where they live.

Owners of factories and trade shops in the territories claim that the uprising has had a significant negative influence on production due to the cutting off of Jordanian aid following King Hussein's decision to sever relations with the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. However, they claim, the uprising has brought them closer to their workers. Before the intifadah, this weak industry represented 7 percent of the gross product in the territories and employed only 10,000 workers. Out of 400 shops and factories, only 1 percent employed more than 50 workers. The Kuwaiti daily AL-SIYASAH, which examined industry in the territories, relates that Palestinian industrialists have established themselves based on very thin independent financing. The industries in question are olive oil, clothing, embroidered peasant dresses, plastic housewares, sheep's wool yarn, tourist gifts made of shells, soap, and soap products, cosmetics,

medical products, and others. The industrialists—if they are worthy of the title—are likely to go under due to the economy, strikes or demonstrations. Even the fall in the Jordanian dinar's value impacted on them.

AL-SIYASAH claims that even the agricultural branches in the territories are now in a crisis which grew worse during the intifadah, since Jordan, itself in a difficult economic situation, has not been able to absorb all the agricultural output from the territories. At issue are olives for industrial use, vegetables of all kinds, chickens, and eggs. Jordan also imposes limits on the transport of large quantities of agricultural produce through Jordan to other Arab nations.

Many farmers, mainly citrus growers, have hung their hopes on the development of direct exports to countries in the European Common Market. They are counting on the fact that the principle objective of countries in the European community, which opened their gates to imports from residents of the territories, is political, not economic. This is also the reason that in Common Market countries they do not pay a lot of attention to Palestinian exports. The PLO's industries and businesses around the world work within the framework of a large economic institution called Samid, meaning "strong." The management of this body boasts that these industries are developing despite the empty coffers of the PLO, empty because the Arab countries did not fulfill their monetary obligations toward the PLO due to their own economic difficulties. Samid published eye-opening advertisements in all the Arab newspapers wherein Samid talks about the quality of its industrial products. The advertisements encourage people to buy its products.

This economic body owns shipyards for building boats and small ships, operates a large network of printing plants in Cyprus and Greece, and is developing a light weapons and ammunition industry, such as, for example, the new development of the RPG [Rocket-Propelled Grenade] missile. But their success is mainly in the production of ready-to-wear products which PLO propaganda has turned into a big hit among western European youth—the Palestinian kaffiyeh, embroidered dresses, and Bermuda shorts.

According to Samid advertisements, the institution also provides agricultural training to developing nations in Africa and to Arab nations via the establishment of experimental farms where Palestinian agricultural experts work. The institution also claims that since Jordan has been cut off from the residents of the territories, Samid has begun to handle the export of agricultural and industrial products from the territories to the world at large. Notwithstanding, Samid's management admits that all this activity produces meager results from an economic point of view and that Samid cannot be seen as an established infrastructure that will in the future provide a foundation for the State of Palestine.

[Box, p 7] Professor Eli'ezer Shefer: Doubting the Economic Independence of a Palestinian State, by Esther Goldbrest

"It is highly doubtful whether a Palestinian state could establish an independent, economic existence, due to the small size of the economy and the absence of an industrial or agricultural infrastructure," says Professor Eli'ezer Shefer who lectures on the subject of the Middle Eastern economy at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

The data show that the population of Judaea and Samaria and the Gaza Strip is 1.4 million residents in a 5,000 square kilometer area—800,000 in the West Bank, 600,000 in the Strip. Most of this land cannot be developed for agriculture—the water sources are limited and can only support a small percentage of the population.

"Perhaps 8 to 10 percent will be able to make a living from agriculture," says Professor Shefer. "Industry is almost nonexistent except for a few isolated enterprises—tobacco, chocolate, and plastic factories. The rest are small shops with limited, out-of-date equipment, at a low technological level. It is a tiny sector that has a very long way to go until it reaches the level of a modern industry. The situation is still far from that."

[MA'ARIV] And if we assume that the population has the means of production, to whom would they market?

[Shefer] "The local market is small because the people are generally poor and their use of industrial products is very limited. The per capita income in Judaea and Samaria is one-sixth of that in Israel—approximately \$1,200 to \$1,400 per capita, which represents very little purchasing power. Even if the population were to double, the total would still be small."

In his opinion, industrial production in Judaea and Samaria will run into a barrier of serious competition in international markets, where competition is the most fierce. From Judaea and Samaria, tens of millions of dollars of products are exported. There still lies a long road ahead to reach Israel's level of \$8 billion in industrial exports. They also have a long way to go before they reach a level of modern technological development and the very high level of physical and human infrastructure that would allow them to penetrate world markets.

Shefer uses examples from Jordan and Syria, where "each has successfully exported factory goods amounting to \$300 to \$400 million a year, not more. These are countries with a government, countries that have been making an effort at industrialization for decades already. The Israelis do not control Syria or Jordan—yet they are not capable of exporting billions of dollars of industrial products. The work force in a Palestinian state, should it be established, would be 350,000 strong, "because half of the population is under the age of 15 and the participation of women in the active work force is so small. It is astounding that approximately 1.5 million people have only 350,000 people to form a work force and of these, 100,000 work in Israel."

Close to 30 percent of the work force in Judaea and Samaria work in Israel because they do not have employment opportunities in their own markets. Professor Shefer again draws a parallel with Jordan: We can see a lack of economic independence in neighboring Jordan which is also having a difficult time supporting itself economically, where more than 300,000 Jordanians work in the oil countries and Jordan receives a large amount of economic aid from the rich oil countries and from the West. We see the economic distress of Jordan today, which expressed itself in riots in May of this year, as a result of decreased Arab aid and the transfer of funds from workers in the oil countries.

According to the Baghdad Accord, Jordan was to receive \$1.3 billion in aid per year. This aid was received in 1979 and 1981. Given reduced income from oil over the last several years, this aid was reduced to \$500 to \$600 million a year.

"This is not enough," says Professor Shefer. "Jordan stopped paying its foreign debt and there is talk there of a recession."

In conclusion, it is possible to establish an independent political entity, but economically it will be dependent on the export of workers abroad and on receipt of aid. "All in all, what is established will not be able to stand independently from an economic point of view."

EGYPT

Court Grants Government Compensation for Torture

45000010 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 27 Sep 89 p 4

[Article by Nihad Muhammad]

[Text] Last week North Cairo Circuit Court of Compensations No. 27, under Justice Mahir Hasan, ruled to compel the president of the Republic and two former interior ministers, Major Generals al-Nabawi Isma'il and Hasan Abu-Basha, to pay the sum of 100,000 pounds in compensation to Sayyid 'Abd-al-Latif Muhammad for his arrest and torture.

A medical forensic report verified the markings of brutal torture to which the citizen was subjected during his incarceration, which lasted 3 years.

Shaykh 'Abd-al-Rahman Views Imprisonment, Islamic Societies

45040513 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 5 Sep 89 p 3

[Interview with Shaykh 'Amr 'Abd-al-Rahman by Ahmad 'Abdallah; first four paragraphs are AL-SHA'B introduction; place and date not given]

[Text] Crossing the blockade imposed on his house was naturally an adventure with more than mild consequences, after attempts to do so by lawyers and journalists had

failed. Forces manning the blockade had even prevented milk, bean, and tomato vendors from entering the "fortress" to which they had restricted 'Amr 'Abd-al-Rahman, who is on record as posing a danger to state security.

We interviewed 'Amr 'Abd-al-Rahman, because he has become an internationally known figure. In the corridors of western and American policy planners concerned with Egypt, he is considered by all relevant measures to be a thousand times more dangerous to Egypt and international stability in the Arab region than all the world's Zionists together, after the friend, Israel... We also interviewed him in person because of our prior knowledge that telephone apparatuses are disconnected if the heat of the conversation intensifies to five degrees centigrade, notwithstanding the possibility of being recorded aurally and visually by means of advanced, security, sensory equipment.

Therefore, for these reasons, as well as the need to know what has happened to the man and his thinking regarding recent developments in his life, we held the following interview. It is unnecessary to state how, when, and where it took place.

The man is extremely weary. Sometimes, he passes his handkerchief over his brow and soaks up the sweat of lean years. With it hesitating, I frankly told him that I speak on behalf of the Egyptian media with all of its good and bad points, and that I would never be sympathetic with him as a terrorist, who, according to the statements of the Interior Ministry and the official media, poses a danger to the security of the country and humanity.

The man laughed heartily, then said:

['Abd-al-Rahman] My only condition is truthfulness in speaking, listening, and writing.

[AL-SHA'B] Why is the Interior Ministry preoccupied with you precisely?

['Abd-al-Rahman] Because of a plan, or let us say a conspiracy, which they contrived and devised at night for direct and indirect reasons.

The indirect reasons concern police and interior personnel who have become accustomed to obstructing God's way, sabotaging mosques, and throwing tear gas bombs and shooting bullets at whomever they wish without restraint or fear of God. There is also a strong desire to implant secular concepts according to which religion belongs to God, the state belongs to everyone, the mosques are for worship only, and God's prophet, God bless him and grant him salvation, was not entrusted with making the mosque a center for leadership, rallying for battle, direction, guidance, promotion of virtue, and suppression of vice. As far as they are concerned, this must be classified as an ancient legacy.

The direct reason is the ruling obtained from the magistrate of summary justice in al-Fayyum and the administrative justice court in Cairo to the effect that the Interior Ministry has no right to prevent my movement inside Egypt or abroad.

Naturally, this ruling was not to the liking of the Interior Ministry, which has become accustomed to stopping propagandists at the entrances of cities and preventing them from exercising their legal and positive right to call people to God's path.

We thought that they would respect the judicial ruling, which is unambiguous. I went to Asyut to deliver a lecture. That dangerous occurrence was the straw that broke the camel's back. They fired the deputy security director for al-Fayyum, and they transferred the chief of the police investigation branch in al-Fayyum, because the ruling was issued on 7 March, the interior minister announced it on 30 March, and I travelled on 7 April, only to be arrested inside the mosque because I exercised my right to live, which I had obtained through a judicial ruling. They threw me—a blind person—to the ground, and they began to trample me, dragging me on the ground. Each time I was about to stand up, they kicked me in my back so that I would drop to the ground again. In this way, my skin was abraded, my leg was injured and every part of my body became inflamed. This does not include the many unheard of insults, abuses, and obscenities.

Do You Know the Meaning of Love?

[AL-SHA'B] This is normal, and it happens frequently to others. As long as you continue to work as a religious propagandist you must number yourself among them.

['Abd-al-Rahman] I am not relating this to recall thoughts, or in anticipation of consolation from you or others. What I am saying will be recorded by history for and against us. What I am telling you now is necessarily an abbreviated picture of an incident which is difficult to express in a few words. May God forgive us and all Muslims for it. There is nothing better than a trial ordained by God for us. If God did not wish to purify us with this incident, it would not have occurred, notwithstanding the nature of the ruler or minister.

Muslim youth are being constantly whipped and dragged on their faces. Food and drink are being withheld from them many nights inside the prisons. No one hears them or acts on their behalf, such that the matter has become tantamount to normal. Did they send word to you this morning that they are seeking consolation from you? What did you report to your readership regarding the ugliness of what is happening inside the prison cells and about people who have not seen their children for 2 years, or if they are permitted to see them, they see them only from behind bars? Do you know the meaning of a father being prohibited from embracing or kissing his child for 2 years? Isn't it true that not one of them is asking you to eliminate the ruler's oppression of him, but rather that you lift your own iniquity from them?

[AL-SHA'B] Let us move inside the cell. How were you treated? What happened to you? What did you hear?

['Abd-al-Rahman] Most recently, I was imprisoned for 4 months and a number of days between the al-Fayyum prison, the reception prison, the prison adjoining the

farm, and ultimately in a solitary confinement cell, where I ate my food alone, slept, read the Koran, and relieved myself. While in the cell, I suffered heart attacks and from diabetes. No one heard me and I heard no one, save for a few minutes when they allowed me to exit in order to remove the waste which had accumulated in the room during a 24-hour period.

I suffered much maltreatment and bodily and psychological torture. They did not allow me to bring in any special food compatible with my health circumstances. I was compelled to eat the prison food which is not fit for animals. They did not allow me to bring in medicine. During this entire period, they did not allow me to be visited by anyone from my family or a private lawyer. Of all the wondrous oddities, they would take possession of the representation permits belonging to the lawyers or family members permitted to visit me and then record the visit in the prison logs. After hours of waiting, they informed the holder of the permit that the visit was denied. That is what happened to me. The floggings, electric shock, water spraying, and extinguishment of cigarettes which has occurred and is occurring at this moment no longer have value, because many have become desensitized to human worth and the unimaginable ugliness of oppression, torture, and terrorism of youth in their prime and others who have yet to attain puberty.

[AL-SHA'B] By the grace of God, you left the prison amid a considerable media din; news of your release became a major story carried by international news agencies and the broadcasts of London, America, and Monte Carlo. What happened after your release?

[Abd-al-Rahman] The security blockade resumed around my "fortress," (the house of Dr 'Amr 'Abd-al-Rahman, which is humble in form and content). According to my own information, soldiers with different types of arms, vehicles, and military ranks are guarding the house from all sides in shifts. How could it be otherwise after my release, about which you say the news agencies were concerned. Did you ask why they were not concerned with the blockade?

No one is permitted to enter or visit me at all, including relatives, nonrelatives, friends, or dear ones. They even prevented the milkman from leaving milk needed by the children each morning. As for journalists and lawyers, they were frank with them, saying: "We hope that you do not make it difficult for us, because the orders are clear, comprehensive, and strict: you are facing the law."

Have you heard or read of such matters in a publication or book about the abasement of man to this extent of oppression, injustice, and aggression, which has no basis in religious or conventional law? Will you not join me in saying the word of the sublime God: "Is not the curse of God upon the oppressors."

[AL-SHA'B] Say it alone your eminence. I can softly say "amen," but I cannot say it in my heart. That is a degree of belief which our exalted religious scholars urge upon

us in the Ministry of Awqaf [religious endowments] and the noble al-Azhar; never is it objectionable.

[Abd-al-Rahman] May God pardon us and you.

[AL-SHA'B] Amen, amen, amen.

Optimistic About the Future

[AL-SHA'B] After reviewing the past and present, permit me, your eminence, to ask if you, the holder of seven titles, have a vision of the future in the light of the martial law which we in general, and you in particular, are experiencing?

[Abd-al-Rahman] The common people believe, and are telling each other in the streets, coffee houses and communications media, that the future is dark. The upper class believe that there is no future for Egypt in the shadow of a state of emergency, rule by fire and steel, the assaulting of villages, the destruction of graves, the expulsion of professionals, and the extension of the emergency laws to the affairs of public and private life.

The elite believe that we are on the road to an abyss, inasmuch as we no longer have decisionmaking power in defining our political and economic fates, and we lack planning.

However, praise be to God, despite the diseases, misfortunes, trials, blockades, restricted residence, oppression, violence, terrorism, and deceit which I am suffering, I am completely optimistic. This is what Islam has taught me, namely: that I always know for certain that God has promised us extrication from adversity and the surmounting of trials, because God, may he be praised and exalted, promised that ease follows difficulty, and that ease accompanies difficulty.

[AL-SHA'B] My interlocutor speaks now of the violence and terrorism practiced by the police against him. However, the police and the press maintain that he threatens security insofar as the Islamic groups who carry out his orders practice terrorism, violence, and extremism.

Therefore, I had to pose this question to him unequivocally: Dr 'Amr 'Abd-al-Rahman, you are accused of practicing violence and terrorism in your call to God. How do you respond?

[Abd-al-Rahman] Let me first say that God is our sufficiency and a wonderful source of support. Praise God, we call only for the promotion of virtue through what is proper and the suppression of vice through beneficence and what is proper. There is neither power nor strength save in God the great and supreme.

Because your media and press stop at nothing regarding the truth only when there is no answerability, and because they derive their information from the stronger side, which holds the power and the scepter, disregarding the intent, or ignoring the rights and duties of the oppressed party, whose religion, property and honor are subjugated, that false accusation was spread about us as

a representative image of what Islam must be before the West and the enemies of God.

Have you asked someone whom we have called to God about the method of our call to him? Have you verified the oppression and slander attributed to us regarding each occurrence concocted by the police to maltreat us in order satisfy the great satans? Never has it happened so. Everything recounted about us and repeated in the name of violence and terrorism is spread from mouth to mouth and by the press. The people of Egypt live and will continue to live, God willing, until the day of judgement, and they will produce evidence of the truth, which is that whispering, not statements, damaged us when we called people to God.

We Are Not Immune From Error and We Reject Blowing Minor Errors Out of Proportion

[AL-SHA'B] The shaykh and doctor of al-Azhar, who was dismissed from al-Azhar because he took unauthorized leave in prison, or let us say that he is accused administratively of failing to discharge his role, fell silent, and then continued:

[Abd-al-Rahman] I pray that God judges us favorably, that we say only the truth, that we call only to the correct, comprehensive, universal Islam, that we not depart from its principles and the verses of the noble Koran one bit, and that we become neither propagandists of the police, nor religious scholars of the ruling authority. I pray that we do not become as those who seek to satisfy the rulers and consolidate their thrones.

We have never called for violence. We have not practiced, nor are we capable of practicing anything which can be called terrorism.

I maintain that we are not immune to error. Unjust rule should not be spread if a youth commits an excess, or even if a group of youths stands up for their God, or issues a call to fight, or incites provocative action. We should not forget what the oppressor has done, and we should not prosecute the oppressed, because they raised their voices or hands to make their oppression known to the people.

Obstruction of the Oppressors

[AL-SHA'B] This accusation does not stop at this; rather I also accuse you of impeding the progress of the call because you engage in activity which the Interior Minister rejects.

[Abd-al-Rahman] My son, is not the oppression of the enemies of God enough? Must you oppress us as well? Was the call progressing, and we stopped it? We believe, by the grace of God, that our call does not deviate from being an attempt to consolidate the foundations of the call to God in freedom. Let no one place before us a stumbling block, regardless of the strength of his enmity toward the call. Let us adhere to the decorum of discussion and dialogue with others. No one who has met us has gone away bearing something in his heart against us. We do not chasten anyone for God. Rather, we attempt

to adhere to God's commandments as much as possible, always subordinating evil to good. Anything else about us is a false accusation, unless the call for Muslims to take pride in Islam impedes the progress of the call, or unless adherence to the truth without hypocrisy or partiality places a stumbling block before the call to God.

Is it correct to say that hindering the oppressor's oppression and not relying on the oppressor amount to the use of violence? These are guiding rules from the Koran and the Sunna. Why are we being denounced on account of them?

I Agree to Limiting the Societies

[AL-SHA'B] What is your eminence's opinion regarding the multiplicity of Islamic groups, which now total more than 30 societies?

[Abd-al-Rahman] The multiplicity of groups active in the call is not erroneous or bad. It is under discussion.

The groups grew and grew, and the discussion groups grew along with them. A number of issues of debate were raised, and the temperature increased for the sake of attaining what is proper.

On the other hand, I believe that the groups are a means desired by God for Muslim youth and religious scholars of the call to escape from the oppression and tyranny of the oppressors. If one group is attacked, another is obliged to prepare itself to plow ahead and continue the march in the confrontation, or to preserve its members from the oppression of the tyrants, or to avenge its oppressors.

I would like to indicate that an oppressor must not exploit one group to pillory another. One group must not wage war against another. The bonds between these groups must be based on adherence to the morality of the prophet and his way regarding cooperation based on piety and reverence.

No Malice Among Propagandists

[AL-SHA'B] Nonetheless, we strongly censure the existence or the incitement of these disagreements, and we reject their expansion or inflammation. We would like for a group not to rejoice when another falls into straits or a predicament. Rather, we ask that all groups, regardless of their schools and programs, help such a group and extend it a helping hand so that it can become extricated from its trial.

Furthermore, I am very fond and respectful of the revered religious scholars and men in the al-Jami'iyah al-Shar'iyah [Islamic Legal Society], the Ansar al-Sunnah [adherents of the Sunna], the Salafiyah society, and the Muslim Brotherhood group on account of their previous Islamic activity, and others whose names are not served by my memory at present. They have frequently met me and clasped my hand. I have also clasped their hands and said that divergent paths are necessary. The terminus of our call shall be: "By the Grace of God, the Master of the Universe."

**Shaykh Abu-Isma'il Refuses To Renounce
Testimony on Bloodshed***45000011 Cairo AL-NUR in Arabic 20 Sep 89 p 1*

[Report by Muhammad Hilmi]

[Text] After the issuance of the court's opinion in the case of the political assassins known as Those Delivered From the Fire [al-najun min al-nar], People's Assembly Member Shaykh Salah Abu-Isma'il stated that no one's blood had been shed in vain in the testimony he gave before the court in this case, and that he had not called for struggle against the ruler.

In its opinion, the court had demanded that Abu-Isma'il renounce the Koranic interpretations which he gave before the court, describing them as permitting the accusation of an avowed Muslim of being an infidel with two proofs and even stigmatizing the ruler as being an infidel, calling for the spilling of his blood, compelling revolt against him, and struggling against him whenever possible.

Shaykh Salah Abu-Isma'il said: "How can I announce the retraction of my testimony before the court when it was nothing but the truth? How can I renounce my statement because it does not excuse the nonapplication of the Islamic Shari'ah? The president of the Republic bears the primary responsibility for this, because he is the one who approves the laws. The Muslim people must oppose the nonapplication of the Islamic Shari'ah rulings because it is not obedience for one who is created to disobey the creator."

**MB Supreme Guide Discusses Coptic Party,
Assembly Elections***45040517a Cairo AL-AHRAR in Arabic 28 Aug 89 p 3*

[Interview with the Muslim Brotherhood's Supreme Guide Muhammad Hamid Abu-al-Nasr by Khalid al-Sharbini; date and place not given]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [AL-AHRAR] What is your position on the announcement of a Muslim Brotherhood [MB] party? Do you think that the government can allow establishment of the party? Can the Copts demand a corresponding party? If the Brotherhood is allowed to form a party, will you accept non-Islamic elements in this party?

[Abu-al-Nasr] The Brotherhood does not object to accepting anyone who believes in and acts in accordance with the party's principles. We are trying to establish a political party if circumstances allow. However, we have observed that the current administration does not allow us any activity, and we are therefore awaiting the decision in the case brought before the court 11 days ago regarding the group's reinstatement.

I do not have any objection to the formation of a Coptic party. It would not harm Egypt; in fact, a variety of opinions and ideas from which one could choose the most beneficial would serve the country. However, certain

Coptic leaders have stated that they do not want to form their own party, and are content with participating in all the existing parties.

[AL-AHRAR] Why did the alliance deputies not withdraw from the People's Assembly after the Ahmad Raslan incident?

[Abu-al-Nasr] The alliance deputies made their opinions on the incident known. They believe that remaining in the People's Assembly is better for the country than withdrawing. Laws are proposed and measures adopted that are harmful to the general welfare, but the presence of the alliance at least registers their opposition to laws that are not in the interest of the people.

[AL-AHRAR] What was the Brotherhood's reaction to the fraud in the latest Shura Council elections?

[Abu-al-Nasr] The recent Shura Council elections had been decided in advance by the government so that no member of the MB would participate, particularly after they were seen to have strong arguments and to be levelheaded under the parliament dome in the People's Assembly. The attempt to prevent the Brotherhood from succeeding in the elections was intended to keep the Islamic movement from having an opinion in ideological fields and from giving advice. Our experience in the Shura Council elections will not deter us from working for Islam and trying to have the Islamic shari'ah applied. Our participation in the coming elections depends on the circumstances.

[AL-AHRAR] Some insist that you are the primary mover in the alliance, both within and outside of the People's Assembly.

[Abu-al-Nasr] The alliance works on the strength of a group of allies, not by the opinion of one alone. Thank God, it is rich with capable men who guide it. We ask God to grant it prolonged success and wisdom.

[AL-AHRAR] Some believe that the Brotherhood is responsible for what happened in the Labor party which led to the split.

[Abu-al-Nasr] Our participation with the Labor Party and our entering the elections on an equal footing in one channel do not permit us to interfere in the internal affairs of the party. On the contrary, we are very sorry about this dispute. All of Egypt has lost a great deal of time talking about an internal dispute, which should not occur during the difficult circumstances the country is experiencing.

[AL-AHRAR] What are you demanding from the government?

[Abu-al-Nasr] I am demanding more freedom and that the government work to apply Islamic shari'ah and a suitable atmosphere for shari'ah. They should do this by reforming education and the media, and by granting the freedom to form parties and freedom of the press, with the fear of God in all things, for "God will not change a people until they change themselves."

[AL-AHRAR] Some say that the radical groups are no longer under the MB's authority.

[Abu-al-Nasr] The majority of these groups were formed when the MB was absent and unable to work for the country and mankind. Therefore, it is not wrong for them to form these groups, some of which have many ideas that are very far from the Brotherhood's past, present, and future program.

[AL-AHRAR] What is your opinion on the violence of some of these groups?

[Abu-al-Nasr] The Brotherhood operates in accordance with the holy verse, "Call others to your Lord with wisdom and sound counsel." It believes that violence impedes the progress of Islam. However, there is also no doubt that using violence to thwart these trends causes a great deal of rancor, resentment, and demands for revenge, which is what we wish to protect Egypt from. We ask that this policy be changed, thereby bringing good to the entire nation, both government and the governed.

Wafd Committee Report Calls for Party Changes

90O.A0033b Cairo AL-SIYASI in Arabic 17 Sep 89 p 5

[Article by Ahmad 'Abd-al-Hakim: "Large-Scale Changes in al-Wafd Party Leadership"]

[Text] The new al-Wafd Party has launched a series of changes among the various leaderships and cadres at the level of the main provincial committees and of the specialized central committees in implementation of the resolutions made by the Higher Committee. This has been done in light of the report submitted by the Opinions Evaluation Committee, consisting of the party's secretary general and two assistant secretaries.

The report confirms that there are numerous flaws and shortcomings in party performance, that some of the main committees in the governorates are totally frozen and that their chairmen devote themselves to their private interests at the expense of party action.

Registration procedures have begun in the al-Wafd General Committee in the al-Minufiyah Governorate. The follow-up and performance-evaluation report stresses that no new members have been attracted for 2 years and that the governorate's committee has engaged in no political activity. Siraj-al-Din, the party chairman, made a decision to reform the committee. Isma'il Rashid has been selected the committee's honorary chairman, Muhammad Ramadan Abu-al-Ghaz its chairman, and Sa'd 'Abd-al-Hamid 'Atiyah, Dr Mahfuz 'Abd-al-Hamid Jum'ah, and Michel Jurji Mikha'il, its deputy chairmen. Hishmat Abu-al-'Azm has been selected secretary general, Mustafa 'Abd-al-Ghaffar, Khalil Muhammad al-Baghdadi, and Kamil al-Ba'thi have been selected assistant secretaries, and Muhammad al-Warraqi has been selected treasurer.

Dr Nu'man Jum'ah, the party deputy chairman, has announced a number of resolutions to develop the Central

Youth Committee and the provincial youth committees. The first resolution is to establish a special fund to cover the youth committees' expenses and to select the youth leaderships by election, instead of the current system of appointment, to form a special committee to receive youth applications and proposals and to present them to the party chairman periodically, and to increase the number of political youth seminars with the participation of the party chairman and its leadership.

Party circles have characterized these resolutions as no more than a maneuver to encourage young people to continue their efforts and activities in serving the party since a large number of them told the party chairman and his deputy that they plan to freeze their activity as a result of the party's indifference to youth issues and concerns. Party sources added that the youth leadership has demanded an expanded session that includes all provincial youth leadership to discuss developments and to get a written, specific, and timetabled commitment to implement the promises made by the party deputy chairman. The alternative will be resignation or frozen activity.

Shaykh Kishk Discusses Extremism, His Mission

90O.A0034 Cairo AL-MUKHTAR AL-ISLAMI in Arabic Sep 89 pp 16-21

[Interview With Shaykh 'Abd-al-Hamid Kishk, Prominent Islamic Missionary and Preacher: "Prominent Islamic Missionary Shaykh 'Abd-al-Hamid Kishk: 'Call's Priority Is Embodied in Entrenching True Faith and Sound Islamic Education; Jihad Is Path To Liberate Palestine; Afghan Jihad Offers Model and Lesson; Leading by Example, Courageous Opinion, and Broad Knowledge Are Qualities of Successful Missionary"; date and place not given]

[Text] [AL-MUKHTAR AL-ISLAMI] I began by asking him about the latest developments in the ban on his preaching.

[Kishk] Very regrettably, there is nothing new. You are aware that I was permitted to return to my mosque on 22 February 1985 [as published]. I did in fact go to my home on the 24th of this month, and we got the loudspeaker ready for the Friday sermon. But on the 25th of February, I had a surprise visit from an official of the Ministry of Awqaf who came to my home to tell me that the decision allowing me to return had been rescinded. I said to him: "Is there any objection to my giving the Friday sermon so that the situation may end peacefully, especially since some papers have already announced that I will return on Friday, 1 March?" All this official said was: "I am a servant who conveys orders." I responded: "Sufficient is God for me and He is the best disposer of affairs."

So I did not refrain from preaching. I was prohibited. This reminds me of the situation of the prophet, may God's peace and prayers be upon him, while emigrating to al-Madinah. With a heart longing for Mecca, he said: "By God, you are God's dearest land to me. By God, if your people had not expelled me, I would not have left you."

The situation remains unchanged, despite numerous endeavors made by earnestly concerned people with the Awqaf Ministry officials. But what is surprising is that these endeavors get no response!

[AL-MUKHTAR AL-ISLAMI] But under these circumstances, how does His Eminence Shaykh Kishk, the missionary, perform his role?

[Kishk] My work for God has not stopped for a single moment. Rather, it has been redoubled. My door is open to all officials who ask questions, seek legal opinions, and present their problems daily. I explain to them the Shari'a opinion on the issues in a manner that pleases God. This is in addition to writing books and an interpretation of the Koran, called "In the Domain of Interpretation."

Call and Missionaries

[AL-MUKHTAR AL-ISLAMI] But how do you view the current condition of the call in the Islamic arena?

[Kishk] The Islamic arena is truly experiencing a crisis of missionaries. In Egypt, there are more than 40,000 mosques. If you examine the number of missionaries—and I say missionaries, not preachers—who ascend their podiums, the conclusion would be regrettable. There is a big difference between a missionary and a preacher. A missionary performs his work in the arena as a mission, not as a job. A missionary leads by example, is courageous in his opinion, and is encyclopedic in knowledge. When he dies, his influence does not disappear. He remains a torch that sheds its light far into the corners of the earth and high into the skies.

[AL-MUKHTAR AL-ISLAMI] And what is the way to get such missionaries?

[Kishk] (He responded immediately:) Engaging in missionary work must emanate from an internal desire. It cannot be achieved by the forceful appointment of the graduates of some colleges. The missionary must also be provided a climate of security. There is no harm in giving him a stipend, the same as the People's Assembly members and members of the judiciary. The missionaries should have a union, the same as doctors and lawyers, so that when a missionary finds himself in the gloom of jails for serving the word of truth, he is reassured about his family. I also demand that special studies be established for missionaries so that others may not compete with them and so that a missionary may be aware of his times and knowledgeable of the events and developments. He should be given the material and moral resources that enable him to devote himself to his call and to the truth without worrying about his livelihood.

But first and foremost, the missionary's dignity must be preserved by prohibiting the derisive sights and programs which are presented by the media and which turn the missionary into an object of ridicule. He should be provided with proper housing that enables him to devote himself to performing his mission. A missionary should

also be provided with a library that contains all kinds of knowledge, especially at this time when prices are rising.

[AL-MUKHTAR AL-ISLAMI] What are the priorities on which the missionary should focus?

[Kishk] Pay attention to the faith, which is the main foundation of the structure. If the foundation is shaky, then the entire structure will be shaky. This is followed by devoting attention to a sound, peaceful and open Islamic education that involves no violence and no secrecy. This education relies on five points: Example, narration, preaching, examining developments, and explaining the penalties for contravention. There then comes the missionary's concern with the problems of the masses. He should act as a son to the elderly, a father to the young, and a brother to the common masses. When God's mu'adhdhin calls for Friday prayers, the Muslim goes to mosque and finds a solution to his problems, as he finds constant company and reunion when he frequents the mosque five times a day. There is no doubt that this is a great accomplishment for the call.

[AL-MUKHTAR AL-ISLAMI] I then moved with His Eminence Shaykh Kishk to the real Islamic situation and to the split and estrangement between numerous countries—split and estrangement that at times erupt in war. I asked his eminence about the reasons and causes and about the various aspects of the cure.

[Kishk] This serious crisis has been produced by three factors: first, world imperialism that has turned the Islamic nation into spheres of influence. Second, the fall of the Islamic caliphate which was tantamount to the bond that organized the Islamic states. When that bond broke, it died and nothing was left behind other than a thin thread of memory. Third, this poisoned dagger thrust into our backs and called Israel.

As for imperialism, whether Western or Eastern, God has prohibited us from following it. Regarding Western imperialism, God has said: "O ye who believe, if ye listen to a faction among the people of the Book, they would (indeed) render you apostates after ye have believed!" Then God, may He be pleased, says with disapproval: "And how would ye deny faith while unto you are rehearsed the signs of God and among you lives the apostle? Whoever holds firmly to God will be shown a way that is straight." God then shows the cure, saying: "And hold fast, all together, by the rope which God (stretches out for you) and be not divided among yourselves." Warning us against Eastern imperialism, God says: "O ye who believe, if ye obey the unbelievers, they will drive you back on your heels and you will turn back (from faith) to your own loss." God then shows the cure, saying: "Nay, God is your protector and He is the best of helpers."

His eminence warns that if dealings and relations tie us to these imperialists, then we must be careful not to allow them to be at the expense of our unity and faith.

He also appeals to the Islamic peoples and governments to work to reestablish the Islamic caliphate because it is an urgent need, considering that we are currently living in the age of major entities, not the age of mini-states and of wormlike appendages.

If the Islamic countries exercise self-denial, cooperate with each other on what they have agreed on, and it is a lot, and if they excuse each other for what they disagree over, and it is very little, then we will accomplish what we desire. The missionary's role in this area is significant and serious.

As for the usurping Jewish entity created by world Zionism, the source of tribulation, we will not be safe from its malice unless we liberate Palestine in its entirety. We will not be safe from its malice with the calls for servile peace. Andalusia, the Mediterranean island, and Palestine were lost only as a result of the call for capitulation, not by the jihad [hoiy struggle].

All peoples who abandoned the jihad were humiliated. In the Afghan jihad, we have the good model and lesson, may God crown the Afghans' struggle with victory and domination.

Islamic Awakening

[AL-MUKHTAR AL-ISLAMI] Under the shadow of the crisis being experienced by the Islamic nation, the blessed Islamic awakening is prominently rising. What draws your attention in this awakening and what should we do to preserve it?

[Kishk] The most significant aspect to draw my attention in this awakening is the youth's fiery spirit which we have not seen for a long time. Mosque congregations used to consist of old people or people who had no place to spend their free time. One is surprised when one finds Islamic gatherings and mosques swarming with youths devoted to reading the Koran, studying Islam, and seriously seeking to implement them, combining understanding with action. It is our duty to take good care of our youth. The prophet, may God's peace and prayers be upon him, said: "Take good care of youth because they have kinder hearts. God sent me with the tolerant orthodox faith and the old men disobeyed me whereas the young agreed with me." The youth of the awakening seek the truth with pure hearts. Therefore, it is our duty to utilize their capabilities. This can be accomplished only through a knowledgeable, experienced, and honest leadership so that the young may not falter and their pens may not be humiliated. This is not surprising. Communism has its leadership, and so does secularism.

Extremism

[AL-MUKHTAR AL-ISLAMI] But the young are often accused of extremism. What are the causes and what is the cure?

[Kishk] We must exclude this word from Islam's dictionary. Our religion is a religion of justice and a religion

that does not condone extremism, decadence, excessiveness, relinquishing, exaggeration or belittlement. If you find extremism, it is due to the lack of knowledge of the spirit of Islam which is embodied in God's words, may God be exalted: "He has imposed no difficulties on you in religion," and "God intends every facility for you. He does not want to put you in difficulty." Islam's absence from the Islamic arena and the elimination of sincere missionaries from this arena have left the ship to drift unguided in a tempestuous sea and have opened the gate to numerous maladies. There can be no teaching without a teacher and no guidance without a guide.

Let the shackles be removed from Islamic action and let the vanguards return to their arena and the missionaries to their podiums. Let al-Azhar regain its message, let al-Azhar shaykh be appointed by free election, let his headquarters be al-Azhar Mosque, not al-Azhar Directorate, and let his budget come from the Muslims' religious trusts. Only then will matters be set aright and will cures and solutions be found for problems.

Al-Matariyah Shari'ah Society Leader Profiled

45040496b Cairo AL-NUR in Arabic 23 Aug 89 p 7

[Interview by Muhammad Fathallah with Shaykh 'Abd-al-Hamid 'Alaywah, Board President of Al-Matariyah Shari'ah Society; date and place not given; interviewer's questions deleted by source]

[Text] Hello. My name is 'Abd-al-Hamid 'Alaywah. I was born in al-Qalyubiyah governorate in al-Khusus, al-Khankah district, in 1937. I grew up in a devout family of comfortable circumstances, which belonged to the Shari'ah Society. When my father died, God have mercy on him, I was 10 years old, and I made my way alone after that without depending on anyone. My attachment to the Society and its various activities grew after I came to Cairo in 1950.

I was elected a member of the main Shari'ah Society, then was appointed a member of the board of directors, then deputy director of the board, and was appointed head of the Shari'ah Society in al-Matariyah in 1987.

This is in addition to my work as a member of the Regional Federation of the societies in Cairo, a member of the Cairo Governorate Local Council and Health Committee, and a member of the Cairo Social Affairs Committee.

Since I have worked with this blessed society, I have found in it loyalty and a sincere call to God, may He be praised for He is most high. I have also found cooperation, thank God, from all my fellow members of the board of directors in pursuing the work of Islam to bring forth the fruits of the tree of devotion. Since 1912, massive projects to serve religion and society have been on the program of the main Shari'ah Society, founded with God's help by Sunni Imam Shaykh Mahmud Khattab.

I am still fiercely proud of my membership in this society, since its only goal is to serve the society of man.

There are many humanitarian, social projects, such as nurseries, hospitals, the training center for young women and housewives, and monthly subsidies. The most prominent is the project to feed and shelter orphans. All of these arise from the program of the main Society and the devout of al-Matariyah, who placed the blessed bricks in this large, comprehensive structure. The cost of all the projects we have mentioned is approximately 10 million pounds, all of it from our own efforts and donations from charitable people who placed their valued trust in the Shari'ah Society.

The society has an important role in encouraging and helping the citizens through schools, review classes, nurseries, the project for secluded girls, and clinics, which are frequented by many citizens. While they are at these institutions, there are informal religious and cultural meetings to instruct young men and women as much as possible so that they can grow into good examples for other young people, to do as God revealed, may He be praised for He is most high, and avoid acts incompatible with Islamic behavior.

The application of Islamic shari'ah is the wish of every Muslim and the hope of everyone who is fervid about his religion, so that things will become as God said, may He be praised for He is most high. "Whosoever contradicts my words shall live a wretched life." We sense how far we are now from God's law and we ask God to make our leaders successful in acting by His book and the Sunna of the Prophet, may God bless him and grant him salvation, so that we all may have the blessing of sharing in the vastness of the true and tolerant shari'ah, and so that every citizen may provide for himself, his children, and his family.

I also ask God, may He be praised for He is most high, to help young people to return to Him. I hope that they will work tirelessly and prove that Muslims work, create, and produce devotedly for the sake of God and their country, and that they will set a good example of giving to their country.

We badly need Muslim expertise in the street, the factory, and the laboratory to be an example for others to follow.

First of all, many benefit from going to the society's mosques, where they find spiritual rest in sincere religious observances for God's sake, far from heresies and superstition, seeking knowledge from its primary sources, the Book and the Sunna, complying with the Prophet's words, may God bless him and grant him salvation. "Take what the Messenger has brought to you and relinquish what he forbids."

Secondly, many young men enroll in al-Da'wah Institute to learn from revered professors learned in Shari'ah and from al-Azhar and its teaching of those who are not knowledgeable.

Thirdly, many persons visit the society's libraries to study Islamic reference works and religious writings.

Fourthly, religious education through model nurseries and schools for memorization of the Holy Qur'an have been received very well for a number of reasons, including complete care in all fields, nominal charges, and good treatment.

In conclusion, I appeal to our young people to read the saying of the Prophet, may God bless him and grant him salvation, and consider it well:

"If the hour comes and one of you has a seedling, let him plant it if he is able before he is taken."

May God bless you and reward you.

Ministry Source Forecasts Effects of Exchange Rate on Prices

45040517c Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 6 Sep 89 p 4

[Article by Hanim 'Abd-al-'Aziz: "Supply Ministry Sources: Rise in Dollar Seriously Affects Those with Limited Incomes"]

[Text] An official source in the Ministry of Supply warned that those with limited incomes will be seriously hurt if the government does not find new ways of increasing incomes before subsidies are totally eliminated in 1993. He said that he had no confidence in the usefulness or effectiveness of the Rate Equilibrium Fund designed to deal with the effects of the dollar's increase from 70 to 110 piasters in the Central Bank pool. The source added that financing the fund from the export of certain goods was not sufficient to counter the continued increase in import prices.

Economists say in their reports that the rise in the dollar's value in the Central Bank pool will increase the value of subsidies from 2.061 billion pounds to 3.237 billion, which will increase the budget deficit and the burden on the citizens.

Interest on debt will increase from 761.7 million pounds to 837.7 million, and public debt liabilities will increase from 1.3398 billion pounds to 2.105 billion. Capital liabilities in the budget will reach 474.8 million pounds, and the deficit in financing for economic authorities will reach 1.8267 billion pounds.

Economic sources sum up the direct effect that the increased value of the dollar in the Central Bank pool will have by pointing out that the total increase in the value of imports will be 3.3182 billion pounds, while the value of exports will only increase by 616.7 million pounds.

Dr Jawdah 'Abd-al-Khaliq, economics professor and member of the economic office of the National Progressive Unionist Grouping [NPUG], believes that the increased value of the dollar will directly affect the prices of basic goods, which will increase by 60 percent. He

predicted that the public budget deficit will increase dangerously, since the bill for imported basic goods and debt servicing will increase by a percentage greater than that of export revenue, and the government will be forced to print more money. This in turn will lead to another increase in inflation and higher costs.

Dr 'Abd-al-Khaliq said that increased prices for production requirements would be an indirect effect.

Dr Muhammad 'Uthman described the recent decisions as complying with the IMF's demand that the domestic currency be devalued, which could be accomplished by other means that would protect our industry and our consumer by using multiple exchange rates.

Dr 'Uthman expressed doubt that the proposed Equilibrium Fund would be an effective solution if it is not converted from real sources.

Dr Mustafa Zaki, head of the Chamber of Commerce, affirmed that the exchange rate of the dollar was raised in anticipation of a flat rate in 1993, but was not done conclusively. He said that prices for basic goods are not expected to be raised suddenly, but would be like bread prices, which were raised gradually.

Najib Faraj, Customs Administration advisor, said that the procedures taken to raise the customs rate for the dollar were done so as not to affect those with limited incomes. The categories were lowered to correspond with the rise in the customs rate for the dollar by 0.3 percent so that prices would not be affected.

Dr Rafiq Suwaylim, head of the Foreign Currency Section in the Ministry of Economy, confirmed that care was taken not to affect those with limited incomes and that all procedures had this in mind. "We decided as part of these procedures to establish the Equilibrium Fund to be financed by oil, rice, and petroleum exports."

Deposits, Capital, Status of Investment Companies Updated

45040509b London AL-MAJALLAH
in Arabic 6 Sep 89 pp 36-37

[Article by Mahmud Salim: "Financial Fraud File Closed: Last Picture of Investment Companies"]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Before going into the position of each company individually, it is necessary to talk about the al-Rayyan Company position which is of concern to a large number of depositors because the company holds about 1.7 million Egyptian pounds worth of deposits. We have to wait for the results of the investigations the prosecution is conducting in total secrecy and under a gag order.

What can be said, however, is that the results of the investigations will come out shortly, that some money deposited abroad has been recalled, and the company's

assets in Egypt have been determined in some detail. All these matters will be announced by the attorney general shortly.

But what about the other companies?

Four companies have obtained approval from the Money Markets Authority [MMA] to reconcile their positions. These companies are: the Sharif Economic Development Company, the Sa'd Real Estate Investment Company, the Sa'd Development and Trading Company, and the Sa'd Industrial Investment Company. These four companies have 167, 202, or 61.8 percent of the total number of depositors with all investment companies, and they hold exactly 1,331,908,230 billion pounds, or 58.6 percent of the total value of deposits held by all investment companies.

These four companies will take steps to register in the trade register and the MMA register in preparation for operating under the new law. It will also issue to depositors investment certificates that will include the total value deposited.

For depositors who would like to get their money back from the Sharif Company, the investment certificates included a provision for refunding deposits either in Egyptian or foreign currency over a period of 4 years in 3 and 4 month installments.

As for the three Sa'd companies, refunds will also be in installments, but over 3 years for Egyptian currency, and 4 years for foreign currency.

These time limits will be based on the circumstances of each individual company in terms of liquidity, sale flows, and financial needs.

By and large, the depositors will be kept fully informed of the dates for recovering every portion of their money.

Ten Companies on the Way

The four aforementioned companies, the Sharif, and the Sa'd companies, obtained MMA approval to reconcile their positions before the deadline last August 8th. However, the board of directors received the files and records of 10 other companies in preparation for considering reconciling their positions. One of them, the Badr Investment Company, submitted its records at the end of last July. Another one, the Muhammad 'Abd-al-Mun'im Shalabi Sayyid Ahmad and 'Ismat Shalabi Sayyid Ahmad "Dar al-Wafa'" Company submitted its records at the beginning of August. The third one, the Sultan Investment Company, submitted its papers on 7 August, or one day before the deadline. The other 7 companies submitted their papers at the end of or a few minutes before the deadline, which was the evening of last 8 August. These 7 companies are: the Muhammad al-Marakishi Engineering and Trading Office, the Huda Misr Investment Company, the Islamic Real Estate and Trading Company, the New Cairo Investment Company, the Ahmad 'Ubayd 'Isawi, Muhammad Ahmad

and Ahmad 'Ulaywah Offices, the Islamic Cooperation (IC) Center, and the Zahrah Arab Media Communications Company.

These 10 companies have 84,907 or 31.4 percent of the total number of depositors and hold 727,623,227 pounds, or 32 percent of the total value of deposits.

The next step with regard to these companies says that the investment law allows the MMA's board of directors 60 days to consider approval for reconciliation of position. But the board chairman, Dr Muhammad Husayn Faj-al-Nur, promised that this process will take less than two months and the decision regarding these 10 companies will be taken soon. The MMA will ask these companies to complete certain technical statements in preparation for reconciling their position so that they may issue investment certificates later on.

Refund Plans

The picture also says that 12 company have submitted to the MMA money plans for refunding depositors' money by 9 June 1990.

These companies are: the Misr Chemical and Paint Company, the Islamic Fatih Development and Investment Company, the Hadi Trading and Contracting Company, the Business and Investment Consulting Firm, the WALICO Corporation, the Haykal Company for Commerce and Industry, the Iman Development and Investment Company, the Muhammad Hasan Mahmud Salam Company, the Delta Investment Company, the Rabbit Project, the Marwat Packaging and Trading Company, and the Marwat Bottling and Packaging Company.

These 12 companies have 2,972, or 1.1 percent of the total number of depositors, and hold 21,490,048 pounds, or 9 out of 10 percent of the total value of deposits held by all investment companies [as published].

The fact is that many of these 12 companies have already refunded a great portion of their depositors' money.

Companies Changing Position

Seven other companies whose files have been examined by auditors appointed by the Accounting Office have not received any money and, therefore, do not present any problems. They are: the Payback Investment and Development Company, the Mubarakkiyyah Investment Company, the Andalus Construction and Development Company (ACID), the Amal Photocopying Company, the Safi-al-Din 'Abd-al-Fattah al-Hawari Company, the Delta Building and Construction Company, and the Misr Building and Contracting Company.

Based on the above, 33 companies have 255,081, or 94.3 percent of the total number of depositors, and they hold 2,081,021,505 pounds, or 91.5 percent of the total value of deposits.

Six companies have had a change in legal status. Some of them are being reviewed by the MMA and others have

transferred their money to other companies, such as the Sharif Plastic Company which transferred its money to the Sharif Economic Development Company before the investment law was issued, the Badr International Investment Corporation, the Hijaz Real Estate Investment Company, the I.C. Group, the Islamic Commercial Real Estate Company, and the Sa'd Investment Company.

The current picture shows that 6 investment companies have failed to submit the required records before the position reconciliation deadline. These companies will be required to submit plans for refunding money to depositors by September 1989. These companies are: the Ahrar Investment Center, the Islamic Domestic and Foreign Trade Company, the Ikhlas Import and Export Company, the International Company for Industry and Development, the JANCO International Agency, and the Anwar Islamic Business Company.

These companies have 2,154, or .8 percent of the total number of depositors. They hold 27,703,899 pounds, or 1.2 percent, of the overall volume of all deposits held by all companies.

The MMA has taken legal action against 17 companies. These companies have 12,513 depositors, or 4.6 percent, and hold 149,081,797 pounds, or 6.6 percent, of the total value of deposits.

These companies are: the Egyptian-Saudi Company, the Fadl Investment Company, the Hilal Company, the Sahiyyah Investment Company, the Water Scientific Center, the Ibrahim al-Zahabi Company, the International Projects Institution, the Egyptian ARAMCO Company, the International Media Communications Integration Company, the Salam Investment Company, 'Isam Pharmacy, the Jadidah Car Company, the 'Abd-al-Hafiz Mahmud 'Uthman Company, and the Nahdah Contracting and Trading Company.

The public prosecutor is handling 34 companies that that 480, or 0.2 percent, of the overall number of depositors and hold 13,671,959, or 0.6 percent, of the total value of deposits.

The Values Court has put 19 of these companies into receivership and 11 are under investigation. As for the remaining four, the attorney general has referred them to the prosecution because they have no assets to be impounded.

Finally, there are 8 companies that have 300 depositors and 2,447,000 pounds, or 0.1 percent, of the total value of deposits.

Hence, the full picture is as follows: 33 companies hold 91.5 percent of deposits and have 94.3 percent of depositors. The rest hold 8.5 percent and 5.7 percent respectively.

The final figures of all firms, save for the al-Rayyan Company, show that the total number of depositors is 270,528 and total deposits amount to 274,505,000 pounds.

Dr Muhammad Hasan Faj-al-Nur, chairman of the MMA, says that the board of directors has set certain rules and regulations governing dealings with investment companies aimed at stopping these companies' obduracy in dealing with depositors, and to resolve the issue of dividends these companies have paid out to depositors under various names, like loans against profits, amount under adjustment, or covered dividends.

These rules consider all money expended under these names up to 31 September 1987, nonrefundable or nondeductible from the original value of the deposit. For depositors who have not received any payments from the companies, these amounts will be added to their original deposits and will be reflected in the investment certificates.

Regarding dividends paid to depositors under these names after 1 January 1988, and up until the reconciliation of position, they will be settled in light of profit and loss statements during this period.

Dr Faj-al-Nur added that the MMA has obtained additional guarantees from investment companies to secure their continued responsibility for the amounts they have already received until all financial obligations are satisfied against the legally established rights of depositors.

He said that the rules also provide that companies issue investment certificates to depositors based on a plan authorized by the MMA board of directors upon obtaining approval to reconcile their positions. The MMA shall continue to implement the certificate issuance program and the maturity schedule.

With respect to the refund program relevant to the companies that have not reconciled their positions, all money received as of the date these companies went into business up until 10 June 1988—the date the new investment law was enacted—shall be refunded to their owners without deducting any money already paid to depositors under any name, save for amounts paid to them out of their original deposits.

Finally, it is about time things settled down. This is according to Dr Muhammad Hasan Faj-al-Din, chief of the MMA, who said: It is about time all depositors are made aware of their company's position.

This is the picture. What is left are executive measures, be they the issuance of certificates by companies that reconcile their positions, or money refunds by those that do not, or by the other companies.

This task will be assumed by the MMA, the prosecution, and the public prosecutor.

Unemployment Impact on Development Discussed

45040520a London AL-TADAMUN
in Arabic 4 Sep 89 p 34

[Article by 'Adil al-Jawhari: "Three Million Unemployed: Population Growth Devours Economic Growth and Intensifies Danger of Unemployment in Egypt"]

[Text] In the heated current dialogue in Egypt, the unemployment issue has occupied the main interest of all levels of the Egyptian Government agencies, political institutions, and opposition parties.

In the NDP [National Democratic Party] congress deliberations, President Mubarak repeatedly emphasized that of the numerous other problems, unemployment is the issue worthiest of attention and care. The prime minister announced the government's adherence to the policy of appointing graduates. But at the same time, he expressed the hope that every graduate will look for a solution, even if it is an individual solution.

The government press columns advise the youth to rely on themselves, regardless of the work opportunities that the government offers.

The problem is serious, and the figures are terrifying. Three million unemployed youth and the universities, schools, and technical institutes continue to throw more of them into the unemployment market. The Arab markets have absorbed all the Egyptian labor they need (4 million workers).

Dr Fu'ad Iskandar, the minister of emigration, has proposed the ideas of looking for unexplored employment areas, including Australia and Canada, whereas the opposition parties have been content with "theorizing" and have failed to offer any practical solutions or even to participate in limited experiments to employ workers. Even though some of Egypt's parties are no more than 10 years old, not a single party has considered setting up camps to train its cadres and supporters on desert cultivation or building economic projects to employ the youth.

All of this comes within the context of government's failure to manage the public sector which is overcrowded with millions of workers, or to provide opportunities to the private sector which has demonstrated obvious inability to respond to the development requirements.

Of 760 investment projects established from 1974 to 1985, a total of 230 projects have been losing and 60 projects have failed to make a profit. Moreover, numerous private sector companies have shut their doors and have accumulated debts of 6.7 billion Egyptian pounds which are awaiting government intervention to reschedule them. The public sector has not escaped losses, plant closures, company liquidations, and worker dismissals.

Government Commitment

Considering that the government has 3 million workers, whereas the public sector has 1.5 million workers, this sector has the capability, if it is well-organized and managed, to absorb more labor and to contribute at a larger scale to solving the problem. It suffices to note that the decree issued in 1964 committing the government to employing the graduates has made numerous accomplishments. According to the Central Mobilization and

Statistics Agency figures, unemployment among university graduates amounted to 42 percent in the early 1960's. This rate has now dropped to 12 percent, whereas the unemployment rates among the illiterate have risen.

If the early 1980's experienced a demand for certain types of craftsmen and crafts, the Egyptian markets have experienced, in the past 3 years, a recession which has threatened the livelihood of these craftsmen, especially since some oil countries have dismissed nearly 450,000 skilled workers and craftsmen because of the drop in oil prices. Considering that professionals hold jobs which they ordinarily retain during their vacation, craftsmen are the category clearly affected by the Arab recession which has afflicted the Arab budgets since oil prices dropped in the world markets. The return of these craftsmen has led to an increased demand for goods in the local market, and this has resulted in terrible inflation.

Statistics issued by official circles in Cairo assert that since 1950, the inflation rate has amounted to 1000 percent, whereas the wage growth rate in the same period has amounted to only 250 percent for university graduates. Craftsmen's wages rose by nearly threefold the inflation rate during a part of this period but then declined anew.

The Egyptian countryside has also experienced a drop in labor, thus increasing the unemployment rates. Explaining this phenomenon, Dr Salah al-'Abd, an ex-undersecretary of agriculture and chairman of the Economy and Growth Branch of the Scientific Research Academy, has said: The Egyptian countryside absorbed 85 percent Egypt's population when this population amounted to 12 million people. Now, the rural population is no more than 54 percent Egypt's population. Meanwhile, the area of arable land has decreased and the so-called seasonal and masked unemployment has come into existence.

The conditions are not much different in the cities. A report issued by the office of the minister of labor asserts that the urban unemployment rate rose from 4.3 percent in 1960 to 19 percent in 1988. Another statistical report by the Central Mobilization and Statistics Agency notes that Egypt's workforce amounts to 15 million citizens (less than one-third the population) and that the employed amount to 12 million only. The unemployed number 2,873,000 workers.

Is the unemployment problem due to the population growth, as the Egyptian official agencies say, or is it due to the poor distribution of labor in the various markets and areas, as the economic experts assert?

The reality confirms that the development plans undergone by Egypt since the 1960's, amounting to 3 plans so far, have contributed to solving the problem by varying degrees. Economic experts support the first 5-year plan which was implemented in the 1960-65 period and was led by Jamal 'Abd-al-Nasir himself and managed by 'Ali Sabri. The plan of Dr 'Abd-al-Razzaq 'Abd-al-Majid, the

first plan implemented under Mubarak's administration, and the current plan have not yet created work areas or opportunities to absorb the annual growth in the workforce. The plan needs to absorb 400,000 youth annually, not to mention the skilled and rural labor.

A report by the NDP General Secretariat says that the most significant causes of unemployment in Egypt are the constant population growth which amounts to an annual growth rate of 2.8 percent and the poor population distribution which has created a flaw in the link between population growth and increased resources in the various provinces.

The unemployment problem is also due to Egypt's educational policy. A wide gap has existed, and for long periods of time, between the education and the training the youth receive on the one hand, and the needs and requirements of the real situation on the other hand. This policy has not yet eliminated illiteracy, considering that one-half of Egypt's population is still illiterate.

The NDP government program proposes altering the educational policy by shifting from the philosophy of enrolling large numbers in universities, to the philosophy of technical and vocational institutes and of industrial training for students. Economic experts believe that the program proposed by the NDP does not fully confront the unemployment problem because, without real and comprehensive development, any talk of confronting unemployment is wishful talk founded on no real bases.

Scholar Claims Link Between Intelligence, Orientalists

45040530 Cairo AL-AHRAM AL-DUWALI
in Arabic 21 Sep 89 p 9

[Interview With Scholar Dr Mustafa Haddarah by Dr Mustafa 'Abd-al-Ghani: "Dr Mustafa Haddarah Raises This Issue: 'There Is a Suspicious Link Between Orientalists and Western Intelligence Agencies'"; first paragraph is AL-AHRAM AL-DUWALI introduction; date and place not given]

[Text] Dr Muhammad Mustafa Haddarah returned recently from Germany where he took part with Ewald Wagner, a well-known orientalist, in debating a university thesis on elegiac poetry in the third century of the Hegira.

Because orientalism continues to play a suspicious role in directing Arab culture and because of the suspicion of a strong link between orientalism and Western intelligence agencies opposing Arab culture, we had to present our views to Dr Haddarah. So what did he say?

[AL-AHRAM AL-DUWALI] How can orientalism direct Arab culture?

[Haddarah] Arab culture can be guided in a Western direction in one of two ways. First, by attempting to break its bond with its heritage. Even though orientlists

have devoted great attention to this heritage, they have their own vision which seeks to make us doubt and greatly diminish the value of our heritage. Perhaps you remember what (Margeliot) wrote about the origins of Arab poetry. He completely denied these roots, alleging that there is no pre-Islamic Arab poetry and that this poetry was written by later narrators. For example, one opinion that seeks to diminish the value of our Arab literary heritage is the orientalist's statement that Arab poetry is "altruistic," meaning that the poet never talks of himself but always talks of others, praising, disparaging or eulogizing them. Even in romantic poetry, the poet does not talk of his feelings but of tangible qualities in his beloved. Such statements crystallize the direction the orientalist seek under the pretext of serving the Arab heritage. The conclusions they have made deprive this heritage of its originality and value.

[AL-AHRAM AL-DUWALI] What about the second way?

[Haddarah] The second way is the one developed by modern orientalism. It focuses on the literary works influenced intellectually and in performance by the West and stresses that Western culture has finally prevailed. Perhaps you mean that the modernist ideological movement embraced by people like Adonis has had a devastating impact on our modern literary tendencies which emulate Western thought and which do not reflect our societies or our identity. One wonders when one finds an Israeli writer writing about Yusuf Idris and attacking all those who have criticized Idris' inclination to use colloquial Arabic in some of his short stories. This reminds us of the old orientalist battle which tried to give colloquial Arabic superiority over classical Arabic so that Arabs may lose a most important mainstay of their unity, namely the unity of language, expression, and thought.

[AL-AHRAM AL-DUWALI] Frankly, how closely is this movement tied to intelligence agencies?

[Haddarah] There is no doubt that in its early beginnings, the orientalist movement was directed to find out the details of the social and psychological life of peoples controlled by colonialism, in addition to keeping track of all political developments, intellectual tendencies, and economic elements created by colonialism. Orientalism then modified its course after the disappearance of colonies and its replacement by a new form of colonialism, namely intellectual colonialism and the imposition of social principles and of a certain pattern of life to ultimately achieve political and economic subservience—a reaction developed long ago against this tendency in Arab and Islamic societies. "Secularism" was one of the important objectives which colonialism sought to disseminate when it found that Islam in particular is tied to the Islamic peoples' intellectual, social, and economic tendencies. So the first step was to "neutralize" Muslims by advocating absolute liberalism and urging the rejection of the so-called "supernatural." This movement did influence some intellectuals who found that the European living pattern may be a supreme

example that could achieve progress and prosperity for our society. But those intellectuals embraced the superficial, not the fundamental. There were also other calls whose advocates were perhaps sincere, such as Dr Taha Husayn's call for teaching Latin and Greek even in our secondary schools in imitation of the European educational system. This is in addition to the call for adopting the European model as a system for all aspects of our life. Husayn was not even reluctant to urge Egypt to abandon Asia and Africa and to join the Mediterranean basin.

Western and Eastern intelligence has developed immensely in recent years. It needs data that may seem trivial to others. But intelligence agencies can put this data together and derive from it extremely serious and significant information. There is no doubt that there are orientalist who have specialized in Arabic language and literature, that some of them come and live in Arab countries for periods of time—sometimes long periods—and gather extensive information that may be beneficial to their countries' intelligence agencies even though they, unlike their predecessors, may not be totally tied to these agencies or may not have been instructed to take up Arab studies for this purpose.

[AL-AHRAM AL-DUWALI] This means that you accuse modern orientalist institutions of being tied to some of the world's intelligence agencies?

[Haddarah] Naturally. I believe that any citizen's role should be to serve his country first. Considering that the intelligence agencies of any country enlist the help of these citizen scholars to find out public opinion trends, characteristics, and ways of thinking of other peoples, I urge our country and its institutions to be alert to the role that we must perform, and I urge our citizens and scholars to contribute to enriching these institutions with the information they need about other countries.

Cairo University Calm, Mass Arrests of Students in Governorates

45000017 *Cairo AL-NUR in Arabic* 11 Oct 89 p 4

[Article by 'Asim al-Khuli]

[Excerpts] The beginning of the new university year has witnessed a calm in Cairo University, where no problems have occurred to disturb studies.

The university administration has allowed veiled female students to enter [the campus], has designated a separate gate for them, and has assigned a female first lieutenant to identify them in a special room. An incident almost occurred when one of the female students refused to be identified in the presence of some male officers in the room, but the officers hurriedly left.

Contrary to the situation at Cairo University, security forces in the Upper Egypt governorates carried out campaigns against the youth of the Islamic societies [jama'at] in which they arrested several of them.

Last week, security forces in Sawhaj Governorate stormed the university administrative building and arrested 100 students inside the university campus. The security forces claimed that the goal of the raid was to secure the university and prevent the students from demonstrating. [passage omitted]

Security forces in Suez Governorate arrested approximately 30 young people. [passage omitted]

Security forces in the city of al-Uqsar arrested approximately 10 young people. [passage omitted]

Journalist Blames Ulema for 'Backwardness'

45000018 Cairo AL-NUR in Arabic 20 Sep 89 p 1

[Article by 'Asim al-Khuli]

[Text] Dr Fu'ad Zakariyya, the secularist leader in Egypt, has launched an attack on the ulema of Islam, and has accused them of backwardness and being behind the backwardness of the nation.

This came in a seminar organized by the scholars' club in the journalists' union, which is controlled by a group of leftists.

The leader of the secularists praised Mufti of the Republic Dr Sayyid Tantawi, saying that he was an openminded man and that this was indicated by his enlightened—as he asserts—Islamic legal opinions analyzing investment certificates.

Zakariyya alleged that the women's hijab [head covering] is a sign of backwardness, that the hijab is like vulgar adornment, and that they are two sides of the same coin.

He added that it is said of advanced societies that they are weak and do not give any weight to religion, or even its tenets, rules, and principles, and yet are advanced and innovative societies.

He said that they necessarily require a degree of permissiveness and tolerance, and a certain amount of rebellion, in order to make progress and advancement.

The leader of the secularists alleged that the ulema of Islam had authorized the murder of [composer] 'Abd-al-Wahhab because of his recent song, "Without Saying Why."

He said that this goes back to the fear which besets the religious ulema every time knowledge is advanced.

Editorial Blames Mubarak for Strike, Urges Workers To Unite

900A0033a Cairo AL-AWRAQ AL-'UMMALIYAH in Arabic 1 Sep 89 p 3

[Editorial by 'Adil al-Mulayji, Worker at ESCO [Egypt Steel Company]: "Delinquents"]

[Text] His excellency the president of the republic cannot at all be absolved of responsibility for the method

with which the government confronted the peaceful sit-in strike by the iron and steel workers. It is a method which confirms the government's obvious hostility to the Egyptian working class.

When I say the president of the Republic I fully mean it, first from the perspective that he is the official ultimately responsible for the security and safety of all citizens and for all that happens in the country and, second, from the perspective that the interior minister cannot independently shoulder the burden of making such a Hitlerian decision.

But let us try to be as naive as possible and let us imagine that the minister is the man who made the decision for his forces. The minister is not accountable to the people. He is accountable to the prime minister. The prime minister is accountable to the president of the Republic and the latter is accountable to the people for choosing individuals who are not up to the level of their responsibility and who do not respect the people, the constitution or the law.

The iron and steel workers' sit-in strike in Hulwan is a legitimate right stipulated by the constitution, the laws, and international charters. So the workers' action was 100 percent legal and they would not have resorted to this action if it were not for the poor economic conditions under which the workers live. The ruling regime is starving us and, at the same time, muzzling us so as to stifle our moans of pain! Our worker colleagues staged the strike as a result of the board of directors' refusal to meet their legitimate demands to increase incentives and provide a meal for all workers. To this point, matters moved normally until police forces arrested some workers and the minister of industry issued a decision suspending the two labor-elected members of the board of directors. This forced the workers to declare their second sit-in strike. So if it were not for police intervention and for the industry minister's decision, there would not have been a second sit-in during which the workers demanded the release of their detained colleagues and the immediate implementation of their demands in order for the management not to procrastinate.

So what happened later? The security forces declared a maximum state of alert and surrounded the plant with thousands of troops heavily armed with various types of devastating weapons, the least of which were automatic rifles. It is as if those troops were waging a war for liberation, confronting armed and organized gangs, such as the mafia, or apprehending smugglers of the people's money, drug or black market dealers or money changers and middlemen! What is surprising is that it was none of these things. The campaign was against unarmed workers inside their work sites.

The regime has lost its mind. Problems are worsening on every side. The IMF, with the United States behind it, has its stranglehold on the regime and the regime enlists its assistance against the people. But....

But was the IMF of any help in preventing the people from bringing Filipino dictator Marcos, Haiti's ruler, Numayri, or the shah of Iran to account?

Workers of Egypt, unite against subservient capitalism and against the businessmen who steal your livelihood and the livelihood of your children. We have become accustomed to their using the term "saboteur" to characterize the honorable and the term "devious" to characterize those whom the masses trust. Let us stand united behind those whom the people's enemies call "devious."

Column Sees Badir 'Assassination' as Part of 'War'

45040496c Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 9 Aug 89 p 4

[Editorial by Najah 'Umar: "The Dr Badir Incident"]

[Excerpts] The incident of Dr Sa'id Badir, who was assassinated by Mossad in Egypt, will not be the last, just as it was not the first of its type or target. Israel has imposed a nuclear dimension on the Arab-Israeli conflict. It has silenced its artillery and declared nuclear war between the Arabs and Israel. The war will not stop until an equilibrium of fear is reached.

Israel has declared war on all fronts.

There is no difference between destroying the Iraqi nuclear reactor and assassinating the Egyptian scientist, and then Dr Samirah Musa, and their successors and predecessors in this type of martyrdom.

There is also no difference between the battle launched against Libya by the United States because of the existence of a chemical factory and the threats and intimations of various levels of sanctions against Egypt because of the remains of a factory from a past era!

They are for the same reason: chemicals are used in the nuclear industry.

Obviously, the arrest and imprisonment of Dr 'Abd-al-Qadir Hilmi in the United States is but another weapon in this ongoing war between Israel and the Arabs. There is no difference between assassination and prison, they both conceal the Arab mind and prevent its presence where it must be.

We must not forget these incidents in the crush or consider them "national occasions" that we opposed at the time, "and then calm prevailed after the enemy aircraft rested" and "our aircraft returned safely." [passage omitted]

Whether we like it or not, the Middle East and the Arab countries in general have taken the nuclear option. The simple fact that Israel has nuclear weapons means that the entire region has taken this option.

The study considers the Israeli attack on the Iraqi reactor in 1981, the Mossad sabotage intended to destroy parts of the reactor in France, and the assassination of Arab

atomic scientists, part of the nuclear war actually being waged in the Middle East! [passage omitted]

Here we must stop to ponder and reflect on the research that vanished with the murder of Dr Sa'id Badir, research on space communications and jamming. There are of course many details, but they are nonetheless important and significant. Nonetheless, this cannot be a means of defeating the Arab mind and reducing Arab capabilities. We must call out together, "Arabs, unite, even if only to protect our scientists."

Columnist Sees Islamic Resurgence Despite Western 'Plotting'

45040527 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 12 Sep 89 p 5

[Article by Mustafa Mashhur: "The Future Belongs to Islam Despite the Long Night of Oppression and Darkness"]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] The materialistic civilization has corrupted the souls and devoided them of ideals, values, morals, and compassion. Some have decided to reform morals through learning and education. Others have decided to reform them through literature and art. Another group has decided that they should be reformed by political means, and a fourth group has decided to follow the path of athletics. The truth is that these are limited and truncated means. But Islam, with its comprehensive system, has incorporated the virtues of these methods and has avoided their drawbacks.

Islam provides a rising nation with all of the laws, the rules, the systems, the emotions, the feelings, and the motives it needs.

Many think that the orient lacks the material power consisting of money, weapons, and a war machine to rise, to struggle, and to race with the nations that have usurped its right and oppressed its people. This is true and important. But what is more important and essential is the spiritual power consisting of high morals, noble-mindedness, a belief in rights, a determined will, sacrifice for duty, and loyalty on which trust and unity are built and from which strength emanates. Islam develops all of these values in its followers, if they adhere to its teachings.

Thick darkness has marched into the Islamic countries from the east and the west. This darkness is embodied in the materialistic civilization and in the culture of pleasure and lust which is reflected in the setback of beliefs and of living systems. Feudalism and the clergymen's domination of Europe created a negative reaction which has led some not only to abolish churches but also to deny God's existence and to view religion as the opium of nations. This reaction also reached the degree of abolishing individual ownership, as communism did at its outset. Here is communism retreating now. Moreover, the materialistic philosophy, on which the European culture was founded, employed science within a materialistic context which has turned into a race in

destructive armament, and a race to satisfy cravings at the expense of values and morals, which are the foundation of nations.

Whoever examines the reality of the Islamic orient finds an awakening and a resurgence, and finds life beginning to flow in the Islamic nation's body, and a growing desire to eliminate this darkness with the guidance of Islam and with the light of revelation. This rising spirit has worried some western countries, especially the United States, and the Jews who are clearly represented by the Zionist enemy.

The United States has earned the major part of the Islamic nations' hatred because of its strong support for the Zionist entity, and because of the corruption and fragmentation this entity is spreading in Palestine and in the neighboring countries, employing its secret and public organizations, such as the Masons, the Rotary and Lions Clubs, and other organizations, to spread corruption and drugs.

Moreover, Europe in general and the United States in particular have their role in scheming and plotting against Islam in general and against the Islamic movements in particular. The studies and schemes in which the United States engages directly or indirectly in this regard are no secret. We find this plotting clearly in the seminar conducted in 1985 by a congressional foreign affairs subcommittee on the congress and Islamic fundamentalism.

We also find it in the missionary campaigns and expeditions, and in the money pouring in to them, especially from the United States, with the purpose of converting Muslims to Christianity. All of this is a darkness marching on the Islamic countries with the purpose of destroying the Islamic awakening and of curtailing the growing Islamic tide in the Islamic arena.

Perhaps the West's and the Jews' domination of the world media explains these campaigns that distort the image of Islam and of the Islamic movements in general, and of the Muslim Brotherhood in particular.

But despite all of this darkness which is marching with its troops, force, and weapons, we are confident that it will be dispersed, and that God's light will rise and prevail, proclaiming the end of the dark night. All of the means of God's enemies will be of no avail in extinguishing the light of God, and God is always true. [passage omitted]

Numerous non-Islamic countries are now experiencing a phase of ideological aimlessness or a semistate of ideological weightlessness. They are in the direst need of ideological stability and spiritual relaxation. They will find this only in Islam: The unification creed and the natural religion toward which God has made man instinctively inclined. God has accepted this religion for His servants. There is no doubt that scientific progress will affect numerous minds as a result of their lowly and abnormal beliefs, such as their belief in atheism and their denial of God's existence—an existence denied only by the ignorant, the malicious, and the stupid—and their

worship of objects other than God, such as cows, stones, or something else in which only people with backward and deficient minds believe.

There are other indications which cannot be listed here, and they all foretell of the end of the dark night and of the rise of a dawn bright with the light of revelation and of the Koran, God willing. We will have, with the dark night, another round in which we will prove that it is ending and that its violence and cruelty are a sign of its imminent end. God is stronger and more capable than the oppressors and "soon will the unjust assailants know what vicissitudes their affairs will take."

Writer Criticizes Pope Shanudah, AL-AHALI

90OA0035a Cairo AL-MUKHTAR AL-ISLAMI
in Arabic Sep 89 pp 6-8

[Article by Dr Muhammad Yahya: "Between Collection and Guidance"]

[Excerpts] In the deluge of their hostility to Islam, the papers of some nonreligious parties rush to positions, the least about which can be said is that they reveal hateful fanaticism against Islam, the people's religion, and the state's official religion. An example is AL-AHALI which has persistently turned some of its pages into a semipermanent podium on which Pope Shanudah shows up from time to time to express controversial opinions and to defend himself or the practices of his church against suspicions which nobody has voiced openly. If AL-AHALI has transformed itself into a podium from which the pope defends and absolves himself and presents his positions, then it has simultaneously transformed its pages and articles into a mass of unobjective and base hostility accusing and reviling Islam and the Muslims without giving them the opportunity to respond and clarify their positions.

In its issue of 31 May, AL-AHALI published statements which Pope Shanudah made on no occasion, be it a Christian holiday or a sectarian sedition. The pope said that he was going to visit the United States, (something which he had not announced until then, perhaps because of his frequent visits to the United States which have become an ordinary thing), as a guide, not as a money collector. He added that the money he was talking about had departed legally, so why shouldn't it return in the same way? We are not interested in talking about guidance and collection because we don't think that the Americans are in need of more Christian guidance. We hope that this guidance will extend to the Copts who form associations and issue publications in the United States attacking application of the Shari'a in Egypt and complaining of imaginary acts of persecution. As for collection, we should note that the money perhaps comes voluntarily from the World Churches Council and other circles, (as in the case of the magnificent printing press supplied by West Germany), without the need for collection or efforts! We say that this is of no interest to us.

But what concerns us is that AL-AHALI—which has opened its pages for the pope to defend himself against suspicions which, God be thanked, have not been voiced by Muslims—accuses the Muslims day and night of receiving vast sums of money from the Gulf states and others to build mosques and to enhance extremism. To no avail do the Muslims say that those who truly receive the money are the communists (newsprint is supplied by Moscow gratis) who, along with the Nasirists and other secular leaders, work in the Gulf's information, political and cultural, as well as private service lobbies. These people should be ashamed of raising the issue of money received in the face of the Islamists. But they are not. The most serious card in their dangerous arsenal is the issue of Gulf money. Here they are issuing a decree absolving Pope Shanudah of collecting money in the United States, meaning that the parasitic capitalist United States, which is the cause of all of Egypt's ordeals, is innocent in the eyes of the American AL-AHALI. [passage omitted]

As for the construction of churches, (for whose construction Pope Shanudah is demanding direct republican decrees), we thought that the progressive newspaper would view this issue on an equal footing with the ferocious religious persecution to which Muslims in Egypt are subjected just because they make their religiosity known and because they work to serve their faith. We wish the Muslims would demand republican decrees prohibiting the storming of mosques and the obstruction of rites in them. [passage omitted]

Column Claims Preparation for 'Battle' After IMF Agreement

Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 6 Sep 89 p 4

[Editorial by Najah 'Umar: "Whose Security...the Citizens or the IMF's?"]

[Text] The person who keeps track of torture these days cannot help but observe first of all that torture appears only in the party press. The other newspapers published in Egypt are silent, as if the issue did not concern them at all, even when three of those tortured are from the journalistic family!

They may have an excuse, since this time the prisoners of Abu Za'bal cannot be accused of impeding production, sabotaging a factory, or breaking the vases in gentlemen's offices! Those tortured this time wage the campaign of the pen, the opinion, and the position. This brings to mind the second observation.

According to what Dr Muhammad al-Sayyid Sa'id told the prosecutor's office, 6 out of 10 prisoners have the choice of whether to be tortured.

It is therefore not random, chance torture, but torture of a familiar type, the reactions to which are known in advance. Consequently, we could say that the journalists, attorneys, and engineers received the same torture as the iron and steel workers. We could say that all of this is merely an attempt to change the thinking of the public

and their leaders from a state of "attack" to one of "self-defense," and from a position of catching a thief to merely standing in front of the door.

What happened was a prelude to what will happen after the IMF discussions. The open violence was merely the other face of economic policies and the ensuing measures, from selling to private sector companies to abolishing free education, raising prices, and abolishing subsidies.

Therefore, what happened was not "faceless" torture or intimidation in a vacuum. In short, it was an "experiment" for the coming battle.

The issue is not "freedoms" in the sky, but the economic and social freedom of our citizens, in addition to the familiar political freedom. The emergency law is not only a sword brought to bear on the minds and thoughts of the people, but is a weapon to deprive them of what they have acquired and the rights they have earned.

The parties must announce an "emergency" and defy the lesson of the iron and steel workers and what happened afterwards.

What happened was not one incident that ended when many of the accused were released. The true battle continues between the economic, social, and political security of the citizens and the security of the IMF. This is the essence of the "cattle prods." The parties must define their positions and state whether they are true parties, or decoration imposed by the rules of the game.

Editorial Criticizes Human Rights Groups' Motives

45040496a Cairo AL-MUKHITAR AL-ISLAMI in Arabic Aug 89 pp 12-14

[Editorial by Dr Muhammad Yahya]

[Text] Former Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil, who was at the same time head of a so-called human rights group in Egypt, stated that the ban on publishing Najib Mahfuz's story "Awlad Haratna" [The Neighborhood Children] was incompatible with the respect accorded this writer, and demanded that the story be published. This happened on 16 May, a few days after a grave, lengthy report was published by Amnesty International on human rights abuses at the hand of the Egyptian authorities. There are many human rights groups in Egypt, including government, communist, Nasirist, and even liberal groups. However the only thing these groups do is to benefit their few members materially and obtain the privileges, exemptions, and influence usually given these organizations. Some of these groups serve as receptacles where former officials are placed, or warehouses for communist and Nasirist elements until they return to official positions.

Not a sound is heard from these groups except for statements that harm no one and go along with the

authorities' wishes, such as the statement by the former foreign minister, who was discovered to have opposed al-Sadat on the signing of the Camp David Accords and became something of a hero, following former Foreign Minister Isma'il Fahmi. Their sole activity becomes apparent when a communist, a Nasirist, or a secular figure is arrested or merely subjected to temporary inconvenience. Then they fire off statements and their usual remarks about the problem of Namibia, which, to their misfortune, has been solved. They have no interest whatsoever in abuses of the rights of Egyptian Muslims or any issue in which Muslims are the victims, such as in Afghanistan or the situation of the Muslim minorities in Bulgaria.

In Egypt, where these groups operate, mosques were stormed. The President's Secretary for Information Affairs, Dr Mustafa al-Fiqi, criticized this attack in a meeting with professors at al-Mansurah University. He acknowledged that the minister of interior is despised (see AL-WAFD, 15 May 1989), and that thousands are arrested without charges, with the consent of the authorities as a preventative measure to stop them from performing the 'Id prayer outdoors or helping to support Islamic candidates in the Shura Council elections held according to the government's wish.

In Egypt, the houses of Muslims are raided and destroyed, women are taken hostage, children are put in prison. The authorities attack and harm detainees and give criminals power over them, students are attacked, and the devout cannot be appointed to jobs—on and on to the end of the sad list, which disturbed Amnesty International in London so much that they issued a special 40-page statement on Egypt. The human rights organizations are concerned only with publishing a story by Najib Mahfuz, which the government had in fact promised to publish, so there was no heroism in the demand. They are only concerned with Namibia and Angola, with expertly defending the rights of Bahais, and even with demanding a public statement prohibiting circumcision of girls.

In truth, there is nothing strange in these positions, if we understand the secular nature of these organizations and their founders and members. Human rights to vociferous secularists in a democracy exclude Islam and Muslims from their understanding of humanity and human rights. The Muslim is a strange creature, inhuman, with no rights and no standing under secularism because he is simply a devout believer, and they hate this. The human rights groups that consider the southern Sudanese rebel the brother Garang worthy of defending as a human do not consider Muslims in government prisons placed in solitary cells, whose personal necessities have been taken from them and who are exposed to diseases, humans worthy even of a well-worded statement informing the people of their condition. It is strange that they always attack Islam and Muslims for not respecting human rights that they ignore the very destruction of before their eyes—the destruction which an organization in London remembered because of its horror.

When the Amnesty International report was published, the progovernment opposition press totally ignored it because it concentrated on the repression of the Islamic movement, the only movement that has been repressed during both the royal and revolutionary eras. This neglect may have been because it stripped away the curtain, revealing the complete truth, and showing that this is merely a game guided by a despicable policy.

Commentary Sees More Democracy, Stability

45040520h London AL-TADAMUN
in Arabic 11 Sep 89 p 13

[Article by Ihsan Bakr: "Will The September Events Recur in Egypt"]

[Text] The question that is being urgently reiterated within the Egyptian political and partisan circles, and within the labor and professional unions and federations is: Will the famous September events recur in Egypt? Could the policy of opening the detention camps anew to whoever opposes or expresses his opinion be revived?

Numerous Egyptian partisan circles answer the question positively. They even go on to add that with the intensifying economic crisis, the authorities, meaning President Mubarak's regime, have no recourse but to resort to police measures and to oppression in order to extinguish any popular reaction. This is the opinion of the National Grouping Party, the al-Wafd Party, and the Labor Party.

Their analyses say that what they had expected has actually happened, and that the arrest campaign which the late President Anwar al-Sadat launched through Major General Nabawi Isma'il, his interior minister, and in accordance with which opposition symbols, intellectual and party leaders, independent notables, and even clergymen, both Muslim and Christian, were arrested with a single decree, which touched everybody, including the student leaderships, and in whose wake the famous platform incident took place.

We say, and the words are those of the Egyptian opposition leaders, that the famous September campaign has been revived in Egypt since August 1989. It is being implemented in phases on the hands of Major General Zaki Badr, Egypt's famous interior minister.

Recent history reminds us that, in the past 30 years, no minister has provoked, with his policy, as many controversies, storms, crises, and as much criticism as Minister Maj Gen Zaki Badr has provoked by applying his policy. The man is an extremely attractive personality. He is as stern and firm as can be, and frank to the point of slander. As the Egyptian proverb says, Zaki "will call a spade a spade to his face." Zaki fears nothing, and his extreme frankness has brought him and the government a number of crises.

Minister Zaki's crises are numerous and varied, even amusing, ranging from a crisis with the university teaching faculties' clubs to his crises with the opposition

parties' leaders and his criticism of some leaders of the ruling NDP [National Democratic Party]. To put it briefly, as the Egyptians say, no opposition figure has escaped Zaki Badr's tongue.

The man has waged his battles independently and fiercely [and has said]: "My task is to preserve the country's security and stability, to protect the legitimate government and the Constitution, to safeguard the law and public order. I will confront whoever swerves from the law with the force of the law and with the decisiveness of authority. I will 'shoot to kill' whoever thinks of employing violence or terrorism."

Nobody has escaped Maj Gen Zaki Badr's sharply critical style or his biting tongue. It is his opinion that the National Grouping Party is a bunch of communists whom "I watch closely. I will fiercely confront—employing the ferocity of the law and of the Constitution—any attempt to swerve from the law. They are a 'handful' of kids who have no base!"

As for the Muslim Brotherhood, "they are an illegal organization which I do not acknowledge and whose leaders I do not recognize." Even though the Muslim Brotherhood has allied itself with the Labor Party, and even though they now have representatives in the People's Assembly, Minister Zaki Badr proclaims openly that there is no such thing as a Muslim Brotherhood and warns that he will "shoot to kill" if any sabotage attempt is made or if any threat is posed to the unity of the nation's two elements [Muslims and Christians].

Briefly, we say that nobody working in the Egyptian political field has escaped Minister Zaki Badr's comments.

Many are the press campaigns launched against Zaki Badr to date. If we were to count all of the accusations made by the opposition press against Minister Zaki Badr, they would fill hundreds, even thousands, of files.

Yet, the man stands fast in his position. They have accused him of all shortcomings, but nobody has been able to cast doubt on the man's loyalty, impartiality, and devotion to his work. He truly believes that Egypt is facing a severe economic crisis, and that the democratic framework applied in Egypt must not be absolute. Democracy does not mean swerving from the law, freedom does not mean demonstrations, the parties' rights and party plurality in Egypt do not mean that the country's gates should be open to the currents of destruction, instigation, sedition, and sabotage.

Since August, Egypt has witnessed an arrest campaign and a number of court cases, beginning with the case of the iron and steel workers, the communist party case, the Iranian organization case, and ending with the arrest of a number of intellectuals and politicians—numerous cases which have aroused public opinion and stirred the parties and the Human Rights Organization. Everybody is pointing the finger of accusation at Minister Zaki Badr.

Minister Badr does not submit to threats or to any blackmail by the opposition. The opposition parties assault him in their papers, and he repays them twofold, saying: "The law and the constitution are the umpire between us. I will not abandon my style and I will tend legitimacy and law in this country."

The crisis is intensifying, the parties are moving, and the minister is not backing down at all.

The opposition says: Egypt is at a sharp turning point. The living conditions are getting worse and worse, and the protests of workers, employees, and even farmers with limited income are increasing.

The question is: How will the government confront this?

If jails are the solution, then the government is deluded. If trumped up charges are the deterrent, then these cases will inevitably end and the judiciary will have the final say on them.

To return to the beginning of the article: Will the famous September events recur in Egypt?

We fully acknowledge that Egypt is experiencing a severe and unique crisis. We also acknowledge that the crisis has intensified for many people. We acknowledge, thirdly, that some of the actions of Minister of Interior Maj Gen Zaki Badr require a degree of restraint and of adherence to the spirit of the laws, not just to their rigid word. We acknowledge, fourth, that numerous excesses are committed and that there is some sort of absence—an absence of state and government authority.

This may be, and is, true. But today's Egypt is not al-Sadat's Egypt. Egypt's conditions at the end of 1989 are not the same as Egypt's conditions in the final days and months of President al-Sadat's administration. The situation is now as different as can be.

Whoever says that Egypt is now living in an era of arrests and jails is obstinate, and whoever asserts that democracy has been foiled in Egypt is unjust. No, this is absolutely untrue. Egypt has never experienced an era of freedom and democracy like the present era. Moreover, more than one Arab president has talked to President Mubarak on this issue. Some Arab regimes even say that the contagion of the liberties under Mubarak's administration has been transmitted to some Arab capitals. All of this is true, and the credit goes to the president's person.

It is true that there is a crisis, and that there are a number of court cases and of detainees. But the final decision is the judiciary's decision. President Mubarak's regime has never violated a final decision made by the judiciary.

I say with utter impartiality and objectivity that the Egyptian experiment of freedom and democracy is marching on its course, and that there will be no changing of this course. But the political practices, whether of the ruling party or of the opposition parties, need to be reexamined. Opposition and freedom do not

mean that it should be emphasized that all conditions in Egypt are pitch black. This violates the truth. A real effort is being made. New cities are being built, gigantic projects are being set up, and there are men devoting themselves to their work. But partisan people forget all of this and focus on peripheral issues only.

Concluding, I again stress that the famous September events cannot recur in Egypt for a simple reason, namely that Egypt has changed completely. All of its economic, domestic, and political conditions have changed. But Egypt's problems are big. There are 55 million citizens demanding the right to work and to a livelihood. There is also the right to clamor and to oppose.

"September" will certainly not return to Egypt, even if Egypt's interior minister is the firm, the stern, and the frank (to the point of injury) Maj Gen Zaki Badr. "September" will not return because Zaki Badr is not Maj Gen Nabawi Isma'il.

Besides, "September" cannot return for a main and fundamental reason, namely that Muhammad Husni Mubarak is not Muhammad Anwar al-Sadat.

IRAQ

Mauritius Seeks Future Markets With Iraq

34190320: Port Louis LE MAURICIEN
in French 23 Jul 89 pp 1, 4

[Article by Jacques David: "Mauritian Offensive in Iraq"]

[Text] The first ministerial mission to Iraq has resulted in attractive prospects for our textile, sugar, and tea industries, not to mention other areas of cooperation between Mauritian industries and large Iraqi investors. This represents millions of dinars and petrodollars for Mauritius, in addition to possible investments in new petrochemical industries in Mauritius. The mission to Iraq just conducted by the minister of industry and industrial technology, Joseph Clarel Malherbe, from 14 to 22 August will be immediately followed by another mission by the private sector, government, and media to Iraq in the second week of September. This important tripartite delegation will take advantage of the trip to stop off in Kuwait, since the government is interested in renewing trade links with some of the Gulf countries.

Mr Malherbe, who was accompanied by Deputy Alain Laridon, was able to meet with President Saddam Husayn during his visit to Iraq, and talks were held between the Mauritian minister and Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraqi deputy minister who is acting as prime minister, 'Aziz Saleh Al-Numan, minister of agriculture, Abdula Bader Danuk, minister of commerce, and Tariq Mikhayal 'Aziz, minister of foreign affairs. They discussed the following topics: textiles, agriculture, the agrochemical industry, and the agrofood industry, as well as the establishment of air connections between

Mauritius and Iraq. Minister Malherbe made it clear that the question of a Mauritian-Iraqi airline was the prerogative of the Mauritian prime minister.

Initially, Iraq offered to purchase 20,000 tons of refined sugar from Mauritius, and the market for selling our tea could start out at 3,000 to 4,000 tons a year. The Iraqis showed the greatest interest in textiles, office machinery, and the paper industry.

Outlining the prospects for Mauritius, Minister Malherbe said that, despite Iraq's years of war to defend its borders and the interests of its bordering regions, it has managed to maintain an enormous potential for development, since its structures have withstood the ravages of the war. The country, which is now ready to resume its development, especially now that the peace agreement of last 22 October has been signed, has a wealth of resources. As far as trade is concerned, several possibilities are available for the textile industry and Mauritian investors. The Iraqis were particularly interested in undergarments and quality wearing apparel, primarily for women and children, but they indicated that the goods must be delivered on time, since traditional sources are currently unable to meet the deadlines required by Iraqi demand.

As for the agrofood industry, Iraq may ask Mauritius to supply it with lentils, corn, and high-quality rice, as well as a whole line of products we may be interested in, at preferential prices. Iraqi investors who have to pay high prices for some light engineering products are proposing the possibility of forming joint ventures with Mauritians to manufacture certain items, such as pipes, for instance.

In these efforts to develop other markets outside Europe and the United States, the government regards Iraq as a third partner in the Persian Gulf and stresses that these efforts stem from a desire to diversify both the market and the products we manufacture in the country, and "provide a golden opportunity for Mauritius to initiate its third industrial revolution."

"A vast market, in addition to other future prospects, are opening up to Mauritius. In pursuing this, the government is opening the way for diversification, while at the same time demanding quality goods from our production sectors. This represents a challenge to Mauritians and an unprecedented opportunity. We are now waiting for the reaction of our industrialists. The great challenge is to produce quality goods and to meet our delivery dates. Iraq represents a market of 70 million inhabitants," Mr Malherbe said.

Iraqi investors are waiting to see what the Mauritians will propose during their September mission and they will then be coming to Mauritius to evaluate possible sectors to invest in.

ISRAEL

Terrorist Incident Influences Penal Law Considerations

44230179b Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT (Weekend Supplement) in Hebrew 21 Jul 89 p 6

[Article by Uri Porat: "Hamor the Father of Shekhem"]

[Text] After almost every atrocity committed by terrorists, voices are heard demanding "the death penalty for the two-legged beasts." But after a few days, the idea is stowed away until the next atrocity.

This time, after the bus on line No 405 fell into the abyss on the way to Jerusalem and the terrorist who pushed it in was captured, the Minister of Police, Hayim Bar-Lev, said slowly and calmly, "I a-a-m f-o-r the death pe-nal-ty."

The novelty is that the minister of police himself, who is known for his liberalism, his lofty scale of values, and the purity of his arms, spoke of the need for such a deterrent death penalty, despite all the doubts he has always had about its efficacy.

A week later, the people of Israel saw on television how Bar-Lev's men in the Nabulus prison handle PLO murderers who have committed shocking crimes. To our astonishment, we saw them, the knife-wielders, cutting up salads for themselves, exchanging the stones of murder for the stones of sheshbesh, and exchanging firearms for ping-pong paddles and balls.

The general atmosphere in the hostel that had been placed at their disposal by the State was similar to that of a Club Mediterranee resort. The murderer of the Moses family stood there opposite the camera in a white shirt and smiled at the camera as if he were the winner at Wimbledon. His face showed that he was quite sane. In addition, we were shown idyllic relations between the prisoners and the jailers, as negotiations were conducted around the discussion table between the prisoners' committee and the administration, as if the subject were a working meeting between the Flower Growers Association and the directors of the Pest Extermination Branch of the Ministry of Agriculture. It seems that it was not by chance that the person who sold to Jacob our Forefather the plot near Nabulus [the Biblical Shekhem] was called Hamor [donkey] the father of Shekhem.

Nice Murderers

When a public outcry arose over this theatre of the absurd, the Prison Commissioner hurried to appear on the "New Evening" show on educational television, where he protested vigorously over the way in which state-owned television had presented what is going on inside the Nabulus prison. And, indeed, his minister, Bar-Lev, came out looking a bit strange when, a few days after he drawled out his words about the death penalty for terrorists, the television quickly showed us how in

Nabulus prison the same characters are having a good time, and not just an ordinary time, but a wild time.

The honorable gundar [prison commissioner], who fouled himself up more than a little in that interview, said that the conditions in the Nabulus prison are not, in fact, as good as people think, as the cells are crowded and the prisoners are shut up in them most of the day and night. He asserted that what was filmed by the television came only from the 2 hours in which the prisoners are allowed to walk about in the courtyard.

It seems that the embarrassed gundar is striving to convince us that the Nabulus prison is not really a five-star hotel, but that it also has solitary confinement cells, "many solitary confinement cells," as he said.

That's nice. Why weren't they filmed? Because it was not permitted. And why was that not permitted? Because it wouldn't be nice to film that. So they filmed only what is nice, and even the commander of the prison, who came out so nice and smiling in the report, is, in fact, said the gundar, a hard, stern, and not nice man.

So why does he look so much like a softie and a super-neat person on television, like the old woman who leads the Salvation Army choir? That was only for the purposes of the report, the prison commissioner admitted in that interview.

That is, television has again taken things out of their context and shown the public only half-truths. It may be that television messed up and it may be that it really wants to show precisely the 2 joyous hours out of the miserable 24-hour day in the Nabulus prison. The guys from television perhaps wanted to prove in that way an argument that has an entirely different message. Something like: See how nice these murderers are, if you treat them nicely and let them live their lives as they wish. Did you understand? If you pet the tiger, you turn him into a pussycat, meaning, television pulled something off, but the Prison Service got screwed.

Laughing and Crying

The Prison Service Commissioner should have known in advance with whom he was dealing. And what did he think, anyway? And, anyway, what do prisons need public relations for?

The ones who profited from the whole business were the Arabs, who saw this naivete and humbling, and laughed, and the ones who lost from this whole business were the Jews. We can now only wait and see upon whom Bar-Lev proposes to impose the death penalty. Or maybe he has already reversed himself. After all, things are developing right under his nose much faster than the instructions come out of his mouth. And meanwhile, even the murderers of the contractor from Gan Yavneh are already playing ping-pong in Nabulus.

Voluntary Enlistment in IDF Declines

44230179a Tel Aviv YEDYOT AHARONOT
in Hebrew 23 Jul 89 p 2

[Article by Hayim Shibi: "A Decline in the Willingness of Youth to Volunteer for Service in the IDF"]

[Text] Disturbing data on the opinions of youth in grades 11 and 12 emerge from an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] study that was received by MK [Knesset Member] Hagi Marom (Alignment), who heads the subcommittee for education in the IDF of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee.

This is a study that has been carried out for years in order to determine the opinions of candidates for IDF duty on the service that awaits them. The study was first carried out in 1974, and has been done regularly since then. Each year, the following question has been posed to the pupils: "Were military service a privilege and not a duty, would you be willing to volunteer?"

In 1974, 70 percent of the pupils expressed willingness to volunteer for full service; in 1980, 58 percent; and in 1987-88, before the intifadah [uprising] had broken out, the percentage of those willing to enlist for full service as a privilege and not as an obligation fell to only 47 percent.

Another finding of the study is that the week in GADNA [Youth Battalions] results in a significant change in youths' opinions. The study found that "those who serve a week in GADNA evidence more positive general opinions than the average: willingness to succeed, pride in joining the IDF, and volunteering spirit." The results for those who serve the week in GADNA were similar to the best results, which were obtained in 1974.

However, in recent years only 32 percent of pupils have served a week in GADNA. The schools are not obligated to accept the GADNA program. Moreover, it appears that GADNA is about to have its budget cut, and there is concern about a further decline in the percentage of pupils who participate in its programs.

LEBANON**Expatriate Source Profiles Chamber of Deputies**

44040565

[Editorial Report] The London daily AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT reported on page 3 of its 22 September issue the assassination of Lebanese Deputy Nazim al-Qadri. According to the article, of the original 99 deputies (55 Christians and 44 Muslims) 73 remain (40 Christians and 33 Muslims). The results of attempts on the lives of eight other deputies are as follows: three sustained permanent injuries, including Ra'if Samarah, Hasan al-Rifa'i and Joseph Sakaf; and five were wounded, including Raymond Iddih, Kamil Sham'un, Pierre al-Jumayyil, Amin al-Jumayyil, and Fu'ad Lahud.

Current Composition of the Chamber of Deputies

Christian Maronites: (19 of the original 30)

1. Raymond Iddih,
2. George Sa'adah,
3. Butrus Harb,
4. August Bakhus,
5. Rene Mu'awwad,
6. Fu'ad Naffa',
7. Ilyas al-Khazin,
8. Ilyas al-Hawari,
9. Edmond Rizq,
10. Farid Sarhal,
11. Pierre Dakkash,
12. Fu'ad al-Tihini,
13. Habib Kayruz,
14. Jubran Tuq,
15. Pierre Halun,
16. Shafiq Badr,
17. Emil Ruhana,
18. Edward Hunayn, and
19. Mikha'il al-Dahir.

Sunni Muslims: (15 of the original 20)

1. Sa'ib Sallam,
2. Rashid al-Sulh,
3. Hasan al-Rifa'i,
4. Nazih al-Bazri,
5. Talal al-Mir'ibi,
6. Zaki Mazbudi,
7. 'Uthman al-Dina,
8. Salih al-Khayr,
9. Zahir al-Khatib,
10. Dayf al-Khatib,
11. 'Abdu 'Uwaydan,
12. Jamil Kibbi,
13. 'Abd-al-Majid al-Rifa'i,
14. Amin al-Hafiz, and
15. Hashim al-Husayn.

Shi'ite Muslims: (17 of the original 19)

1. Husayn al-Husayni,
2. Kazim al-Khalil,
3. Kamil al-As'ad,
4. 'Adil 'Usayran,
5. Anwar al-Sabah,
6. 'Abd-al-Latif al-Zayn,
7. Rafiq Shahin,
8. 'Ali al-Khalil,
9. Yusuf Hammud,
10. Subhi Yaghi,
11. 'Abd-al-Mula Amhaz,
12. Ahmad Aspar,
13. 'Ali al-'Abdallah,
14. Husayn Mansur,
15. Hamid Karub,
16. Mahmud 'Ammar, and
17. Muhammad Yusuf Baydun.

Christian Orthodox: (8 of the original 11)

1. Albert Mukhaybir,
2. 'Abdallah al-Rasi,
3. Najah Wakim,
4. Michel Ma'luli,
5. Michel Sasin,
6. Bakhus Hakim,
7. Maurice Fadil, and
8. Rai'f Samarah.

Druze: (1 of the original 6)
Tawfiq 'Assaf

Christian Catholics: (the original 6)

1. Joseph Sakaf,
2. Nasir al- Ma'luf,
3. Nadim Salim,
4. Rashid al-Khuri,
5. Albert Mansur, and
6. Salim 'Abd-al-Nur.

Armenian Catholic:

One deputy Joseph Shawar, was elected then died.

Armenian Orthodox: (the original 4)

1. Khackik Babikian,
2. Suren Khan Amirian,
3. Melkon Ablifaitan, and
4. Yaro Yarfanian.

Christian Protestants: (the original deputy)

Antranik Manukian

Representing other minorities: (the original deputy)

Farid Jubran

National Debt Reaches 697 Billion Pounds

90010019a London AL-TADAMUN
in Arabic 14 Aug 89 p 32

[Article by Walid Zahr-al-Din: "Continued Shelling in Beirut Aggravates Economic Crisis"]

[Text] On the occasion of blowing out the third-month candle of the recent events in Beirut, a Lebanese citizen quipped in the tradition of "things are so bad they make one laugh": "Should things persist in this manner, we may not be able to buy a candle to blow out in the fourth month."

This expression reflects the rough circumstances generated by the post-March events, which have set new records in negativism unequalled since the war broke out in 1975.

Budget Deficit

The state budget is in a pitiful state. Customs revenues have dried up, (except for minor customs duties levied on goods at the Tripoli, Sidon, and Tyre ports, but not all of them are turned over to the treasury amid protection

money and taxes levied by the parties and militias). There is no tax collection, no tangible foreign aid, and no loans.

Although this state of the budget is not new, for it has been going on for the last 14 years of the war, the recent events have been beating on the door of bankruptcy.

Bank of Lebanon (Central Bank) sources say that, as of the end of last May, the public debt amounted to 697 billion Lebanese pounds, compared with 518.9 billion pounds for 1988, and 193.6 billion pounds for 1987.

The same sources say that if the government account, or the 106 billion pounds in government deposits at the Bank of Lebanon for the same month, is brought down, the net value of the public debt will hit roughly 591 billion pounds, compared with 438.5 billion pounds for 1988, and 185.4 billion pounds for 1987, raising the net internal public debt during the first 5 months of the current year by 152.5 billion pounds, at an average monthly rate of 30.5 billion pounds, which means that daily government expenses amount to a little over 30.54 billion pounds.

Bank of Lebanon sources say that the situation is being managed with difficulty through treasury bonds by way of commercial banks and, hence, the Bank of Lebanon, clients and firms.

The debt is generally composed of treasury bonds, in addition to a 146 billion pound deficit in the independent fuel fund account, and the Lebanon Electric Power Company debts worth about 5 billion pounds.

Airport and Port Shutdown

The Beirut International Airport shutdown last 11 March, a few days before the recent bloody events broke out, has had a very negative impact on the Lebanese economy. Salim Salam, the board chairman of Middle East Airlines, believes that the company and the airport have been hurt the most.

Salam estimates the company's daily losses, as a result of the shutdown, at 70 million pounds a day and still growing, bringing the total to billions of dollars. No one can determine the final figure in anticipation of the desired relief at all levels.

The Middle East Company is an example of the financial problems and difficulties suffered by Lebanese companies and companies operating in Lebanon. If, as Salam said, they were sustaining losses in times of peace, how about in times of war when the airport has been shut down? For example, in 1988, the company's losses amounted to \$2.5 million and were expected to reach the \$3.5 million mark this year, but the airport closure renders this figure way below the amount of losses the company will sustain by the year's end.

The shutdown has also contributed to another kind of loss afflicting the state treasury, brought about by the

fact that airport customs revenues, estimated at 1 million pounds a day, have not been coming in.

The same thing goes for Beirut Port which has been closed down to maritime traffic since the recent events broke out. The treasury has lost an estimated 1 million pounds a day in customs proceeds, or one-fifth of the total customs revenues.

Losses sustained by the Beirut Port Investment and Management Company amount to 4 million pounds a day in port fees, and employee wages and salaries. Added to that is close to 20 million pounds a month in lost income from storage and transit fees collected on grain belonging to the private sector.

The Private Sector

The private sector has had the lion's share of losses brought about by the recent events. This is the way Dr Fu'ad Abi-Salih, president of the Industrialists Association, began his talk with AL-TADAMUN, adding: "Lebanese industry has been subjected to many blows and setbacks, particularly during the Israeli invasion in the summer of 1982, when the Israelis deliberately destroyed many of the factories' infrastructure projects, and also during the recent events which, unfortunately, are still going on. Industrial sector losses, in the first 3 months of the events, are estimated at about \$250 million, not including the estimated \$20 million loss sustained through direct damage to machinery and technical equipment used by the factories."

Dr Abi-Salih added: "All of this has been caused by the total paralysis afflicting the operation and production of 70 to 80 percent of industrial firms. Moreover, the small number of factories operating in certain areas have cut down their production to only 10 to 15 percent. These firms rely on domestic marketing, particularly in their immediate areas."

In answer to a question about Industrialist Association estimates of nonimmediate damages, or damages that may appear in the future, Dr Abi-Salih said: "This is a very important point to us, even though it is not very apparent to many people. Although these kinds of losses are difficult to determine and assess, I would like to consider one basic point within this framework, namely that recent events have done great damage to the reputation of Lebanese industry abroad, for they have prevented Lebanese industrialists from fulfilling their promises and commitments in terms of delivering goods under contract before the outbreak of the war. This has undermined the massive and incessant efforts we have made in recent years to raise the value of Lebanese industrial exports, particularly to new markets such as the European Common Market, which was receiving 17 percent of our total exports, up from 2 percent in 1980. Certainly, regaining this reputation and trust after the recent events will be neither easy nor quick."

What is being said about the aforementioned sectors applies to all of the various public and private utilities in

Lebanon in the aftermath of the last 3 months of events in Lebanon. There is no government, the situation is out of control, and the firms may have to go out of business at any moment, and the living conditions and the food supply crisis are getting worse.

The term "attrition" may be an appropriate, true, and all-encompassing title for the black portrait of the internal situation in Lebanon, while the people seem to say: "God protect us from worse things."

LIBYA

Official Explains Government Organization, Procedures

45040525 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 12 Sep 89 p 3

[Article by Tal'at Rumayh: "20 Years After the Revolution, How Is Libya Ruled?"]

[Excerpt] From the moment I set foot on Libyan soil, I was looking for answers to questions and misgivings which had taken shape over the course of long years of listening to government media.

How is Libya ruled? How are executive decisions made there?

What is happening in this country that has proclaimed the abolition of traditional government, where there no longer are ministers, where even the position of head of state has been abolished, and where there is no longer a written constitution?

What about the "free officers" who led the military coup of 1 September 1969? What about their role and their privileges now?

What accomplishments has the revolution achieved for the Libyan people? Is it a revolution? Has it changed the social and cultural face of the people, or was it merely a military coup that is still clinging to power?

Before I obtained any answer to my questions, I found myself confronting a more important and significant question: What about the disbanding of the army announced by Colonel (not president) al-Qadhafi at the beginning of the celebrations?

I had my questions in mind whenever I met an official—and I met many—and whenever I found an opportunity to talk with citizens. The celebrations and the Libyan street scene surging with tumultuous waves of humanity were the best opportunity to look for the answers.

Here is the result I obtained. How is Libya ruled?

As soon as I learned that he was former secretary of the Foreign Information Committee (the Libyan information agency) and current secretary of the World Islamic Association's information office, I grabbed him and bombarded him with questions and inquiries.

Brother 'Ali Mariyah said, "The matter is simple, although unusual. The people of a residential district

meet to be a basic people's congress. By direct vote by show of hands, this congress chooses from among itself a 'people's committee,' each member of which concerns himself with a particular service utility. There is a member for health and another for transportation. And so it is with education, health, social insurance, culture, information, justice, etc.

"The individuals of this residential district people's committee are in turn members of the specific people's committee of the municipality subdivision. A governorate is divided into a number of subdivisions. Within the subdivision, people's committees come into being for each of the state's utilities. In their turn, they go up to the level of the governorate municipality, in which there are people's committees for health, education, etc. In each of them there is a representative in the same specialty from every residential district.

"The members of specific committees in the various municipalities (the governorates) form from among themselves a specific general people's committee for each utility on the all-Libya level. There are 18 general committees. They choose their secretary by direct vote, and he is the minister, as you would call him in Egypt. The General People's Committee, (the cabinet in your terms), is formed from the secretaries of the people's committees. It elects for itself a secretary of the General People's Committee, (the prime minister, as you call him)."

General People's Congress

I said, "I understand these things. I understand that the ministers are elected. What comes afterwards?"

He said, "The General People's Committee (the council of ministers) is not a supreme authority. It is part of the General People's Congress, the supreme authority in the country, which is composed of representatives elected from the basic people's committees. (They carry with them the proposals and ideas of the people's congresses in which all members of the people participate.) In addition, it contains representatives of the professional associations and labor unions. This body is the supreme authority in the country. It has legislative, executive, and oversight powers all at once.

"Bear in mind that its role is only to coordinate proposals and comments that come in from the debates of the basic people's congresses."

He added, "The General People's Congress is the body that by direct election chooses the head of the central bank, the head of the supreme court, and the head of the people's court. It calls them to account and removes them, if it wishes, just as it calls ministers to account and removes them. There is no fixed term of office for any of them. An emergency public session can be held to discuss them, call them to account, and remove them."

20-Year-Old Secret

I said, "Where do the 'free officers' fit into this authority?"

He said, "The names of the 'free officers' have still not been announced, and they are not known!"

I said, "What about the revolutionary committees? What is their role?"

He said, "These revolutionary committees have no executive capacity, and their members have no privileges. Their entire role is to raise the people's consciousness and draw attention to errors in revolutionary practices, without any interference in executive aspects. They are under the direct leadership of the brother leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi.

"They hold a conference every year to discuss developments of the revolutionary situation at home, in the Arab world, and internationally. They issue specific directives, but their views have absolutely no compulsory character."

I said, "Excuse me, I forgot to ask who is chairman of the General People's Congress."

Smiling at the word "chairman," which is no longer used in Libya, he said, "There is a secretariat composed of five individuals. They are the council's secretariat and supervise the coordination of its work between sessions."

Our System Has No Secrets

Brother Sulayman al-Shuhumi agreed to a meeting. He is one of five men who represent the highest authority in Libya. He is a member, secretary for people's committees affairs, and a member of the General Secretariat of the General People's Congress (holder of absolute authority in the country). After he gave me a letter of greeting and appreciation for Professor Ibrahim Shukri, the party leader, I said to him, "Tell me, where is the separation between your executive authority (the cabinet), your legislative authority (people's assembly or chamber of deputies), and the judiciary?"

He said, "We do not apply the principal of separation of powers. Power among us is single and unified. The people exercise it without mediation or representation." He added, "Each individual in Libya is a member of a basic people's congress. There are about 723 congresses. These congresses alone have power to make decisions.

"The remaining committees that are formed from them—and at all higher levels—exist to coordinate between the people's proposals in all areas: legislative, executive, and judicial."

I said, "And the government, the presidency, and...?"

He said, "What governments and presidents do abroad has been transferred to the basic people's congresses. In other words, the people's congresses act on their own,

and there is no representation of the people in the practice of authority. All our foreign policy is discussed in people's congresses in the residential districts, streets, and villages and is decided there."

I said, "I have learned that the secretaries of the people's committees (ministers in our terms), and the secretary of the secretaries of the people's committees are called to account by the General People's Congress. Have any of them ever been dismissed?"

He smiled to indicate that he had understood the gist of my question and replied, "On a single day, the people dismissed eight secretaries (elected ministers), including the secretary of the General People's Committee, (the prime minister). That was in 1986."

Reassuring me, he added, "On 2 March of every year, public sessions of the General People's Congress are held for 10 consecutive days and are broadcast live. In these sessions, all resolutions of the basic people's congresses throughout Libya are discussed, officials are publicly called to account, and domestic and foreign policies are discussed."

I said, "And there is no secret in this?" He said, "There is no secret from the people in anything."

Professional Army a Danger

I said to brother Sulayman al-Shuhumi, "But what about the disbanding of the regular army? Have you established a people's committee and people's congresses for it, too?"

He said, smiling, "Brother, the existence of a regular, professional fighting body is the greatest danger to the people's authority."

"As long ago as 1977, we began taking steps for general military instruction, people's resistance, and the organization of cities into militias—meaning that each city will come to have a militia capable of defending it. The goal is for the entire people to be armed."

"Every Libyan is a soldier or officer in one specialty or another. He does not devote himself exclusively or professionally to fighting, but he is always ready for it, while carrying on his productive labor."

I said, "How?"

He said, "Every Libyan citizen receives training for 1 month every year (after completing his basic training period) and also trains for 2 days a month, during which he reports to his military barracks to perform his role of protecting the country's installations as a fighting soldier. Afterwards, others take his place. However, for the modern specialties and positions whose void cannot be filled by the masses, there will remain a small number of superior personnel. Henceforth, however, the basic job of those devoted exclusively to armed activity is training the people and educating its military cadres on a continual basis—and that alone."

I said, "Will you allow me to ask a somewhat embarrassing question?"

He smiled.

I said, "Are there any things that al-Qadhdhafi, as leader of the revolution (not president), has asked from the people's congresses and that have not been approved?"

He said, "Yes, and that is the greatest proof of the health and soundness of our experiment. Al-Qadhdhafi asked for home education for the first two elementary grades, for families that are able, with pupils enrolling in the third grade after a simple test. However, the people's conferences told him that the time had not yet arrived."

"Al-Qadhdhafi asked for abolition of the death penalty, but the masses refused."

I asked another question: "You, for example, train with weapons, even though you...."

He interrupted me forcefully, "Every other leader, too!" He smiled, "Who isn't ready to defend the achievements of his homeland?" (I did not allow him to finish.)

We Are Against Representation

Brother 'Ammar al-Mabruk Latif, secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Apparatus for Follow-up (i.e., head of administrative surveillance and the central apparatus for audits and technical follow-up) spoke to me with great sincerity and awareness.

The People's Apparatus for Follow-up submits its reports about violations and problems in public before the People's Congress, as well as over the air, so that cabinet and other officials can be called to account on the basis of these reports. It is an agency that enjoys great respect and esteem from the Libyans.

He said, "We are against representation, even in death. An army is nothing but separating one part of the people to defend the homeland on behalf of the people. In my view, that is like keeping mercenaries."

Noticing the expression on my face, he added, "It is not reasonable for me to sit in this airconditioned office and leave you to fight in my place."

I asked him, "Aren't you depriving all regions of political activity by this method?"

He answered, "How, when every Libyan, without restriction or condition, is a member of the People's Congress?"

"How, when the basic people's congress chooses its people's committee by direct election? Believe me: On the contrary, we have opened political clubs (the basic people's congress) for all sides to present their ideas and vote. There has been no objection to any person who has been elected by people's congress. No one has the power to imprison. To reassure you even more, I say that there are no political prisons in Libya now. The leader has destroyed them forever."

No to Constitution?

"What about the Constitution?"

He replied, "All experience shows that constitutions are approved by representative assemblies chosen by governments or authorities, or they are drafted by the leaders of military coups.

"So why should we set down a written constitution, brother, when we have religion and custom? We do not recognize constitutions. We have none. Our constitution is religion and custom."

I asked him, "What are the forms of ownership among you now?"

He answered, "There are three kinds. First, there is private ownership. If you do not employ any hired workers, then let you and your children manage your enterprise (a workshop or truck).

"Second, there is joint ownership by several individuals who participate in an enterprise on the basis of their working in it themselves without employing others.

"Third, there is public ownership by the people by means of individual shares. Usually, the state contributes by paying for these enterprises and receives revenue in return."

The foregoing were interviews for the purpose of bringing to light a picture from [Libya's] leaders. But what about Libya 20 years after the revolution according to statistics and information available during the visit?

Oil, Oil, Oil

Apart from the political ambiguity, what about the Libyan economy during the 20 years of the revolution?

The central issue, from a reading of the figures, naturally, is what about reliance on oil.

One notices that the percentage of workers in agriculture and livestock has dropped from 29.1 percent of the work force (1970, the base figure) to 19.1 percent. This has also happened for oil extraction (from 2.3 percent to 1.6 percent).

The same holds for public administration services (from 12.8 percent to 10.1 percent). Restaurant and hotel management have gone from 7 percent to 5 percent. One notes that workers in financial and insurance institutions have remained constant (1.4 to 1.5 percent).

On the other hand, one notices a rise in the percentage of workers in processing industries. They represented 4.7 percent of the work force in 1970; now they represent 9.5 percent of it. The same holds for workers in educational services (from 8.2 percent to 14.1 percent).

As for oil, until 1970 the contribution of nonoil companies to the current product of the Libyan economy did not exceed 36.9 percent. Now, after 20 years, their

contributions have risen to 69.5 percent. The contribution of oil and natural gas has fallen to only 30.5 percent because of transformations in the Libyan economy and the fall of oil prices.

The contribution of agricultural activity has risen to 5.3 percent, instead of 2.6 percent in 1970. Processing industries have risen to 7 percent, instead of 1.7 percent—and so forth.

Naturally, the influence of oil is still great. This explains what happened to the economy in 1986, when the growth rate reached its lowest level (minus 18 percent). The explanation for this was the frightening drop in oil production. In 1980, which saw a sharp rise in oil prices, the growth rate in the Libyan economy reached 35 percent.

Another important observation is that the smaller portion that oil represents in the Libyan economy (30 percent, instead of 63 percent) 20 years after the revolution does not mean that it has been replaced by reliance on productive activities—agriculture and industry—to an outstanding degree.

The contributions of agriculture and industry are 5.3 percent and 8 percent respectively, for a total of 13.3 percent. What has largely replaced oil are public services (their contribution has reached 22.7 percent) and other services (they have reached 34.5 percent).

Because of fluctuations in the price of oil, the average income of the individual Libyan dropped to \$5,573 in 1988. In 1970, it was \$10,694.

An important observation should be made about the future and the planning vision of the Libyan leadership. It is that the proportion of investments in the oil sector has not exceeded 7 percent of total investments available and implemented in the economy.

There have also been the contributions of the public sector to economic activities during the 20 years. It has not exceeded 12 percent, compared with 88 percent for the public sector [as published].

Libyan Revolution and the Future

It is true that the Libyan revolution has held fast intellectually to the common features of those who are in their situation in our Arab region, for Islam is the religion, the mentality, and the traditions. Arab unity is a goal such that if it is achieved, the plots of the big powers will be defeated, and the Arab world is itself the world of the exploited poor.

It is true, also, that the revolution has been deeply aware its being an inseparable part of the world of poor and oppressed peoples and has shown everyone that its struggle with colonialism is a cultural struggle, not just a political one.

All this is true, along with other things we have mentioned earlier in terms of politics, democracy, and

economy. But there are some factors that cause anxiety about the revolution. We summarize them as follows:

A strong turning aside to the outside world: This is something that the visitor notices, whether in the number of conferences held to study international revolutionary conditions or in the slogans that are raised. [passage omitted]

MOROCCO

Government Figure Discusses Maritime Fishing Development

45040522a London AL-TADAMUN
in Arabic 4 Sep 89 p 32

[Interview With Mostafa Okacha, Moroccan Parliament Member and Shipowners Association Chairman: "New Terminology in Moroccan Economic Dictionary: 'Maritime Revival' To Confront World Food Crisis"; first three paragraphs are AL-TADAMUN introduction; date and place not given]

[Text] Economic observers have taken a long pause before the phrase "maritime revival" which has been used by a Moroccan maritime fishing official and they have raised more than one question about its purposes and objectives.

The fact is that Moroccans devote great attention to the sea, considered an endless source of blessings and wealth to all human societies and viewed by futuristic scientists as the most eligible resource for overcoming the world food crisis embedded in the womb of the future. This attention is due fundamentally to Morocco's geographic position. Morocco's coastline is more than 3,500 km long, stretching from Saadia on the Mediterranean coast near the Algerian border to Kouira on the Mauritanian border on the Atlantic Ocean. What this coastline's fish resources yield is tantamount to the lung through which the Moroccan domestic economy breathes and to the international ceiling for the country's economy.

AL-TADAMUN BUSINESS has observed from Rabat the Moroccan policies which have attracted the attention of the circles concerned in this area and has conducted the following interview with Moustafa Okacha, chairman of the Moroccan Shipowners Association, member of the Moroccan Parliament and of the Parliamentary Maritime Fishing Committee, and mayor of the city of Benslimane:

[AL-TADAMUN] How was the Professional Association of Owners of Ocean Fishing Boats founded and what strides has it made? What is the nature of its relationship with the Ministry of Fisheries and with other local and international associations engaged in maritime activity?

[Okacha] The said association was founded in 1978 after the ocean fishing sector was created in the wake of the preliminary investment law which was issued in 1973. This law sought to encourage Moroccans to invest in the

fish resources along the Moroccan coastline which stretches for 3,500 km. This entire coastline abounds with vast fish resources and is considered a most important fishery.

Upon creation of the ocean fishing sector, a number of companies were formed and this motivated fellow shipowners to consider creating the said association as a free professional association that defends this sector and helps its development. The association was created before the Ministry of Ocean Fisheries and when fishing issues were under the control of the Ministry of Commerce and Transport. The Ministry of Fisheries immediately set up a department to unite the various parts of this sector, to tend its development, to coordinate its work, and to draft maritime policies in cooperation with the association.

[AL-TADAMUN] What is your assessment of Morocco's efforts to exploit its maritime resources in order to develop its economy?

[Okacha] As I have already pointed out, this sector is still new, considering that it was created in the early 1970's when the government supervised the companies concerned. The companies achieved success which attracted the attention of Moroccan investors and the private sector then started investing in this area. Maritime fishing experienced constant growth from 1975 to 1981, relying on private efforts and investments which developed even further from 1981 to 1988 to create a major leap in the growth of this sector, thanks to King Hassan II's decree, which called for giving the country's economic priority to this sector, and to the decree creating a cabinet portfolio for maritime fishing. This ministry's policies have been based on the evergrowing demand for this vital food commodity. This demand has developed on the one hand as a result of the growing world population and of its increasing need for food and, on the other hand, as a consequence of the drop in fish production in several parts of the world due to pollution and to careless exploitation which has caused this wealth to gradually diminish.

[AL-TADAMUN] How about the ministry's role in meeting the aspirations?

[Okacha] It can be said that the ministry concerned has focused on its major task, has changed the laws to make them compatible with the said aspirations and has, in a few years, created vast development in terms of number of boats, of their technology, and of their capabilities. This has increased the value of the yield from 75-80 million dirhams to 20-30 billion dirhams. By the end of 1988, the value of the yield was estimated at \$25 million. The number of boats has risen from 40 or 50 boats to 220 boats at present. These figures confirm that this sector has undergone almost record development in a very short time.

[AL-TADAMUN] Is the growing demand confined to the local market or does it extend to the international level?

[Okacha] It is at both levels. As for the outside world, the growing demand is coupled with prices that have greatly exceeded the 1975-81 prices. The truth is that the sector has experienced no crisis insofar as foreign demand is concerned. Consequently, rewarding export revenues have clearly contributed to developing the sector.

[AL-TADAMUN] An objective of the Moroccan Government plan for the fishing sector is to shift the activity of the ocean fishing fleet to national ports. What is your opinion on this?

[Okacha] Since the sector was created, it has been conducting all its operations in foreign ports, namely Las Palmas Port and a number of other Spanish ports. The presence of the Moroccan fleet in these ports is due to the unavailability of basic equipment in Moroccan ports. For these ports to be able to accommodate the enormous fishing boats, they have to be enlarged, special areas have to be set aside to receive fishing boats. These areas have to be supplied with water and they have to supply the boats with oil at international prices. They must also have refrigeration plants because a perishable commodity is involved. This is in addition to the fact that production is designed for export. This dictates that the ports' unloading and shipping operations be organized precisely.

[AL-TADAMUN] Has the association tried to solve these problems?

[Okacha] We have contacted and met with the Ministry of Fisheries on this issue. Under the ministry's supervision, we presented the problem of supplying boats with oil at international prices to the Ministry of Energy and we have concluded an agreement with this ministry on this issue. But in practice, the oil companies have asked the government to either pay the price difference from the Subsidy Fund or to permit importation of the oil allocated for the boats without customs fees. To date, the problem continues to exist between the Subsidy Fund and the said companies.

[AL-TADAMUN] How about the other problems?

[Okacha] The truth is that there is more than one difficult problem. But they are ultimately surmountable. What I mean is that each boat has consumable equipment. This equipment has to be imported. Moreover, the foreign crew of each boat requires a special diet. To date, we have not been able to fully Moroccanize the crews. Nearly 50 percent of the expertise we enlist is foreign, mainly from Korea. These experts do not eat Moroccan foods. This in itself requires import licenses and hard currency. This is why we have held several meetings with the Exchange Bureau to facilitate the availability of hard currency by opening accounts with convertible dirhams for that purpose. There are also problems with customs. As an international port, Las Palmas offers all kinds of free transactions that do not require permits or anything of the sort. This enhances both trade activity and profitability. We are now in the process of studying this issue and of mobilizing available resources and utilizing them to develop the Moroccan maritime fishing sector.

Minting Authority Established in Rabat

45040498a London AL-MAJALLAH
in Arabic 5 Sep 89 pp 44-45

[Article: "Morocco Attains Self-Sufficiency in Coins and Notes"]

[Text] In the suburbs, some 10 miles from Rabat, rises a 19,000-square-meter white structure built on an area of 10 hectares. It is the Moroccan Industrial Complex for minting coins and printing banknotes—the first of its kind in Africa.

Dar al-Sikkah is the name the Moroccans gave this huge industrial complex which comprises a banknote printing plant and a coin mint. The printshop has an initial capacity of 200 million banknotes and an ultimate capacity of 400 million. The mint has an annual capacity of 100 million coins, expandable to 200 million coins with the addition of extra equipment.

Muhammad al-'Iraqi, director of Dar al-Sikkah, says that Moroccan demand for coins and banknotes has risen considerably during the past 10 years because of growth in the gross domestic product. It is also attributed to active population growth and an increase in the volume of domestic economic transactions.

In addition to the two aforementioned coin mint and banknote printshop, the facility also houses a "security documents unit"—a third autonomous facility specialized in the printing of security documents such as checkbooks, treasury bonds, postage and revenue stamps, passports, and national identity cards.

The bank of Morocco has been using this industrial complex, since its creation in 1987, for the production of new categories of coins and banknotes whose technical specifications are vastly different from their predecessors.

Dar al-Sikkah, as it produces these new products, makes sure that they conform to the most exacting security considerations. Morocco hopes that this industrial complex will bolster its foreign investments, especially with African and Arab states that could print and mint their currencies in Morocco.

Moroccans consider this a revival of the ancient tradition of coin minting and jewelry smithing for which they have been famous for centuries.

Trade Balance Deficit Reported

45040498b London AL-MAJALLAH
in Arabic 5 Sep 89 p 45

[Article: "Morocco's Trade Balance Declines"]

[Text] The Moroccan balance of trade retreated somewhat during the first four months of this year as a result of declining exports and rising imports. Moroccan exports dropped by 8.2 percent as imports increased by

13.8 percent. The ratio of exports to imports decreased from 70.9 percent to 57.2 percent in one year.

The trade deficit is attributed to declining sales of phosphates and phosphate derivatives and to higher prices for oil and other Moroccan imports of machinery and spare parts.

The trade deficit is calculated at 2,400 million dirhams of which 692.8 [million] is attributed to lower sales of phosphates, 380 million to a higher oil bill, and 520 million to increased Moroccan purchases of machinery and spare parts.

Industry Ministry Predicts Six Million Tons of Grain for Season

45040419c London AL-TADAMUN
in Arabic 3 Jul 89 p 37

[Text] The Moroccan Ministry of Industry announced that grain production for the current season is expected to reach about six million tons due to abundant, albeit late, rains.

The ministry added that the expected increase in the production of wheat, barley, and corn followed the drought which spread in the early eighties. This forced Morocco to import over two million tons of grain a year at a time when annual production did not exceed 4.5 million tons. This lasted until 1988, when record grain production of 7.9 million tons was realized.

Arab Contractors Meeting Discusses Continental Link

45040522c London AL-TADAMUN
in Arabic 11 Sep 89 pp 31-32

[Article: "Twenty-Second Session of Arab Contractors Federation: Arab Contractors Grouping To Implement Project for Spain-Morocco Continental Link"]

[Text] The Executive Office and specialized committees of the Arab Contractors Federation held their 22nd session in Casablanca with the participation of delegations representing regional contractors' organizations. The meetings discussed numerous issues concerning the Arab homeland's contracting, building, and construction sector, the means to strengthen the sector's contribution to pan-Arab development and the federation's activities at the various levels.

'Abd-al-Rahim al-Hajjuji, the Arab Contractors Federation chairman, presented a brief report on the most significant activities of the federation and its agencies in the past period.

The Executive Office then held continuous meetings for 4 days and drafted the appropriate resolutions on the issues discussed, led by the following:

First, in the context of relations with Arab financing funds, a draft study on developing the Arab contracting

sector—categorization system—was examined. The study was financed by the Arab Economic and Social Development Fund and conducted by Arab experts in engineering and management, in participation with the Zahlan Consulting Firm. Numerous flaws and shortcomings were found in the contents of the study. Therefore, it was decided to invite the consulting firm and the Arab fund representative to meet at federation headquarters to discuss the draft study and the observations affixed to it by the Executive Office, and to urge the consulting firm to amend it accordingly and to complete it as soon as possible in accordance with the terms and controls set by the contract concluded with the Arab Contractors Federation. The Executive Office also decided to strengthen relations and to seek more bonds with the Arab development funds and with the Islamic Bank so as to enhance the possibility of participation by Arab contractors in implementing projects financed by these investment bodies.

Second, regarding the project for the Morocco-Spain (Africa-Europe) continental link, the Executive Office decided to invite Arab contractors to take part in the third international symposium which will be held in Marrakesh next year to discuss the various aspects of the project. The office also approved in principle the input to be presented on the economic aspect by Shaykh Ibrahim al-Afandi, an Executive Office member (Saudi Arabia).

After contacts between the federation's Executive Office and Moroccan officials, it was decided to form a grouping of Arab contractors wishing to take part in implementing the project and to conduct various studies at all levels. This grouping will form a committee which will be entrusted with the task of contacting all the Arab and international parties connected with the project, keeping in mind that the Moroccan minister of public works and vocational and cadre training had welcomed the creation of this grouping in official correspondence with the Arab contractors, provided that the grouping take the legal form befitting its role in the current phase.

Third, the Executive Office decided that the federation's General Secretariat shall instruct the Arab contractors' organizations to ask their members to apply to the federation for eligibility so that they may get the needed certificates to facilitate their participation in projects outside their countries. This is especially true since the Arab financing funds have expressed their wish to cooperate with the Arab Contractors Federation to establish the proper bases that make it easy for the fund to select contractors qualified to implement projects they finance. It is conditional that a contractor applying for eligibility belong to a regional organization that is a member of the federation.

Fourth, after deliberations on what should be done to prepare for the federation's third conference materially and morally and to mobilize all capabilities in preparation for entering the next phase, with all the tasks this phase requires in order to keep up pace with the current

Arab and international developments, it was decided to convene the conference in Morocco in February 1990. It was also decided to organize on the peripheries of this conference a symposium to discuss the issue of how to develop the economic and legal environment to help export Arab contracting work.

Fifth, through the information supplied by the federation and Executive Office chairmen, participants in the meetings familiarized themselves with the latest developments in the issue of creating an Islamic contractors federation. It was decided to continue the contacts in order to complete the study on the issue of this proposed organization. It was also decided to maintain the status of the Arab Contractors Federation, its fundamental activity in the Arab contracting field, and its participation in the Islamic Development Bank projects implemented in Islamic countries. It was further decided to present the outcome of the federation chairman's contacts to the next session of the Executive Office so that it may determine the Arab Contractors Federation's position on this issue in accordance with the federation's fundamental objectives and activities.

Sixth, the Executive Office decided to rename the Arab Arbitration Center the Arab Construction Contracts Arbitration Chamber. It was also decided to open discussions with the Arab Lawyers and Engineers Federations to name their representatives to the provisional executive committee so that this committee may be summoned to meet, approve the chamber constitution, and begin exercising its duties. After perusing the cooperation agreement with the Arab Engineers Federation, the conferees decided to add another article to this agreement on the Engineers Federation's participation in the Arab Arbitration Chamber.

The discussion then dealt with the federation's financial conditions, with the circumstances involving issuance of AL-BINA' AL-'ARABI [Arab Construction] magazine and the Arab Contractor's Guide and with other new developments. Engineer Hasib Salih, the Iraqi Contractors Federation chairman, then presented a detailed clarification of the objectives and resolutions of the meeting of representatives of the ACC [Arab Cooperation Council] contracting organizations which recently convened in Amman, the capital of Jordan, as one of the steps taken to strengthen the position of the Arab contracting activity as an objective of the Arab Contractors Federation's.

Engineer Hasib Salih, chairman of the Iraqi delegation to the Executive Office meetings, has stated that the issues discussed are especially important for bolstering and developing the Arab contracting activity's role in and contribution to pan-Arab development, especially in the areas of supervising the implementation of vocational and technical projects, of bolstering the Arab Contractors Federation's relations with the financing and investment organizations and with the Arab professional federations, and of reviewing analytically the federation's conditions and activities in the various fields.

OMAN

Work on Four New Dams To Start

44000675a Muscat TIMES OF OMAN
in English 7 Sep 89 pp 1, 2

[Article by Meena Ganjvr: "Work on Four New Dams To Start"]

[Text] Work is to soon start on the Barka/Rumays water scheme, the largest ground water recharge scheme in the Sultanate, according to official sources in the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The scheme, to be carried out in South Batinah, involves construction of four dams in four major wadis in the region, the sources told the TIMES.

The dams to be built at Wadi Bani-Kharns, Wadi Ma'awil, Wadi Rabkut and Wadi Taww will be within a distance of about 30 kms.

The four dams will have a total storage capacity of 30.4 million cubic metres water and once implemented the scheme is estimated to recharge about four to six million cubic metres per year, when there is rain.

Of the four, the biggest 7,800 metres long dam at Wadi Bani-Kharns will have a storage capacity of 12 million cubic metres followed by 7,400 metres long Ma'awil with 9.7 mcm. Wadi Rabkut dam (4,500 metres long) and Wadi Taww dam (3,700 metres) will have a storage capacity of five mcm and 3.7 mcm respectively. The height of the dams would range between six to 7.7 metres.

Intrusion

These dams, to be constructed between a road and the jebels [mountains] along the Batinah coast are expected to help the growing agricultural activities in the region as well as assist in fighting the problem of intrusion of saline sea waters into the coastal agricultural lands.

The dams, to be constructed mostly of gravel and earth-fill would be protected from erosion and collapse by means of plastering with gabion baskets filled with bulky stones. It is understood all material, except gabion baskets, to be used in the construction will be local.

The dams will be provided with openings to reduce the speed of water and regulate the flow in order to tap run-off of rainwater, which occurs when storms break over the mountains, and ensure that it seeps into the ground to recharge the subterranean aquifers. Every year about 120 million cubic metre of rain water in Oman is lost to sea and desert.

The purpose of the dam, the official said, was not to store water, but to temporarily retain water and release it slowly to hasten the process of infiltration and ground storage.

Decrease

The opening of the dams will be so designed that the speed of the outflowing waters decreases and diminishes after a certain distance before reaching the sea.

The scheme also involves construction of culverts spillways to allow excess floods to escape without doing any damage to the dams.

To maintain the efficiency of the dams the silt deposits which would build up over a period of time would be removed from the dam and the infiltration area would be aerated when the land is dry and this could then be used as transferred agriculture soil.

An official said tenders had been floated and offers were expected by the end of this month. The scheme is expected to be completed by 1991.

The dams are being constructed under a master plan prepared by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries during the Second Five Year Plan. The plan envisages construction of 58 dams in various wadis of the Sultanate to add about 80 million cubic metres annually to the ground storage.

The dams commissioned so far are in Wadi al Jizi, which was inaugurated by the Agriculture and Fisheries Minister, Shaykh Muhammad Bin 'Abdallah al-Hana'i last week, al Khawd on Wadi Sama'il, Hilti Salahi in Northern Batinah, Wadi Qurayyat in the Interior Khawr al-Rustaq Protection dam in Sur.

Two more dams, Wadi Ghawl in al-Hamra' and Wadi Tanuf in Nizwa are expected to be completed this year.

Power Expansion Discussed

44000677b Muscat TIMES OF OMAN
in English 24 Aug 89 pp 1, 3

[Article by Meena Gunjvr]

[Text] Some of the densely populated villages in Oman will receive electricity next year and be linked to the electrical grid. Muhammad Radha Hasan 'Ali, the Director General of Electricity, Ministry of Water and Electricity, told the TIMES.

"Electrification plans at the end of the third Five Year Plan which expires in 1990 include villages in Sumayl, Dank, 'Ibri, Yanqul, Mahda, Bahla, Nakhal, Wadi Al Maawil, and certain areas in Suhar and Musandam where power is available."

He said the Ministry had extended power supply to many towns and villages during the last three years, especially in the rural areas. "The most densely populated villages in Al Sharqiyah, Batinah, al-Zahirah, Dakhiliyah Buraymi and Musandam were given services during 1988/89."

The Director-General said the Ministry had prepared an integrated plan to extend electrical services to different parts of Oman through five year plans according to availability of funds.

The priority, he said, was determined by certain criteria, like density of population, the distance of the area from the nearest power sources and the availability of energy.

The principal source of electricity supply in the Sultanate is from gas turbines installed at Al Ghabrah power station which is inter-connected with Rusayl power station in the capital. Wadi Jizi power station also supplies electricity to Suhar, Buraymi, Wasit and Ibri.

In the Southern region, and in Al Dakhliya, Al Sharqiyah, Musandam, Khuriya Muriya and Masirah Islands small diesel power stations have been installed where no gas pipelines have yet been extended.

But with an increasing number of towns and villages being linked to the national network, diesel generators, no longer required, are moved to more inaccessible villages.

"During the current plan the Ministry of Electricity and Water closed diesel power stations in Musannah, Suwayq, Rustaq and Khaburah following the erection of 132KV 33KV H.T. overhead transmission lines from Rusayl and Ghabrah power stations to feed these areas," the Director General said.

He said the main objective of interconnecting regional networks to the national grid was to get an acceptable cost of power generation and guarantee the continuity of power supply to all areas by using surplus electricity from one area in another area.

The Ministry also carried out an extension at the Raysut(B) power station this year by adding two diesel engines raising the total installed capacity of the station to 25.5MW. With this the total installed capacity of the entire Raysut station has increased to 61.5MW.

Mr. 'Ali said the combined installed capacity of Salalah and Raysut power stations would cover the demand in the South.

The Director-General said as natural gas was the main source of fuel in the Sultanate the greater part of power generation resources were from gas turbine followed by diesel engines. However, experiments were being carried out in renewable sources of energy which were being applied to a very limited extent.

"Since big quantities of traditional energy sources are available in Oman, we will not turn towards the renewable resources at present, but definitely will follow up the development of this technology till studies declare the feasibility of using the renewable energy sources for bulk power generation," he explained.

A vital element in the development of a national supply by electric power is the training of manpower. The

Director-General said the Ministry had managed to carry out His Majesty's instructions regarding Omanisation of all technical and administrative posts without affecting production operations.

"As most of the jobs occupied by expatriates are in technical professions and need special qualifications and long practical experience, the Ministry has established a scheduled programme for Omanisation and replacement with the aid of international training organisations."

Two training centres have also been established in Riyam and Ghabrah power desalination station conducting specialised courses.

While Riyam Trading Centre specialises in the works of transmission and distribution lines, the Ghabrah Centre imparts training in operation and maintenance of gas and steam turbines and desalination plants.

SAUDI ARABIA

Statistics Show Economic Upswing

44000661 Jeddah ARAB NEWS
in English 22 Aug 89 pp 1, 16

[Text] Jeddah, 21 August (SPA)—The Saudi economy, which stood firm and resilient during 1988, managed to overcome some of the most negative aspects facing the world economy, including the decline in oil prices, fluctuations in the exchange rates of major foreign currencies and increased protectionism, according to the governor of the Saudi Monetary Agency (SAMA), Hamad Al-Sayyari.

Despite these negative factors, the Kingdom's economy continued to grow with the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) registering an increase of 3 percent during 1988, said Sayyari who was speaking after the presentation of the SAMA annual report to Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd by the Minister of Finance and National Economy Muhammad Aba-al-Khayl and SAMA governor.

The report stated that the increase in total imports, which was much lower than that in total exports, was partly attributable to higher world prices. Therefore, there was a recorded increase in the trade surplus for the first time since the decline began six years ago. Favorable developments, such as the improvement in oil prices and the considerable expansion of non-oil products which had grown by 50 percent during 1988, have reflected positively on the current account of the balance of payments.

The agricultural sector, according to the report, registered an excellent growth rate of 16.4 percent. In the non-oil private sector positive growth was recorded in a number of major economic sectors.

The following is the full text of the annual report from the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency:

The government efforts to consolidate domestic economic activity and sustain the development process in the Kingdom were positively reflected during 1407/1408 (1987) in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), with the non-oil GDP recording a real growth rate of 1.0 percent. During 1408/1409 (1988), the GDP recorded an estimated real growth rate of 3.2 percent.

During 1407/08, the non-oil private sector continued its positive growth in a number of major economic sectors. Three sectors, namely agriculture, public utilities and industry achieved noticeable expansion. The performance of the agricultural sector surpassed that of the preceding year, registering a growth rate of 16.4 percent. The electricity sector achieved a growth rate of 5.8 percent, while the industrial sector registered a growth rate of about 2.0 percent. Value-added in the construction sector also rose by 6.4 percent.

During 1407/08 (1988), the non-oil economic sectors continued to expand at higher growth rates. The growth rate of the manufacturing sector rose from 1.9 percent in the previous year to about 5.0 percent during the year under review. Value-added in the agricultural and utilities sectors indicated strong growth rates of 11.0 percent and 5.0 percent respectively.

The budget for fiscal year 1409/10 (1989) was characterized by an increase in revenues which were projected at SR116 billion. The increase was attributed to improvement in oil prices and an increase in other revenues. The budget placed expenditures at SR141 billion.

As for fiscal year 1407/08 (1987), the year under review, actual revenues amounted to about SR104 billion, increasing by 36 percent over those of the preceding fiscal period.

[Text illegible] during 1407/08 (1987) compared to a rise of 7.6 percent in the preceding year. The slackening growth rate of M_3 was attributable to the fact that residents' foreign currency deposits recorded a smaller increase of SR2.3 billion during 1407/08 compared with a rise of SR8.78 billion in the previous year.

The proportional shares of the various components of M_3 underwent a notable change during the year. The share of demand deposits increased from 29.6 to 30.7 percent. The share of other quasi-monetary deposits also increased from 20.8 to 21.3 percent.

During 1408/09 (1988), the broadly defined money supply (M_3) recorded a rise of SR9.0 billion or 5.3 percent. Data for the first quarter of 1989 showed that money supply M_3 increased by SR2.96 billion or 1.7 percent. In both cases, the various types of deposits accounted for the bulk of the increase in M_3 .

Total commercial banks' deposits increased during 1407/08 (1987) by SR7.4 billion or 6.1 percent to reach SR129.3 billion. Demand deposits rose by 9.2 percent and time and savings deposits by 0.7 percent and other quasi-money deposits by 8.2 percent.

During 1988, deposits increased by SR13.2 billion. The increase was attributable to the inclusion of the data of Al-Rajhi Banking and Investment Corporation in the consolidated balance sheet of commercial banks. As for the first quarter of 1989, the various categories of bank deposits went up by SR2.7 billion.

Foreign assets of commercial banks increased by SR15.5 billion or about 18 percent to SR102.2 billion during 1407/08 (1987) compared with the rise of SR13.7 billion in the preceding year. The increase was mainly attributed to a rise in the amount due from their head offices and branches outside Saudi Arabia. Foreign assets of banks constituted 59.5 percent of their total assets.

During 1988, commercial banks increased their foreign assets by SR12.5 billion to SR114.7 billion, accounting for 53 percent of total assets. As for the first quarter of 1989, banks' foreign assets rose by SR1.4 billion to stand at SR116 billion, accounting for 52 percent of total assets.

Commercial banks expanded their branch network by opening 37 new branches during 1407/08 (1987) raising the number of bank branches in the Kingdom to 674. The number of the clearing houses also rose from seven to eight during the year under review. The number of checks cleared during 1407/08 (1987) was 2.8 million and their value totalled SR206.3 billion. It is worth noting that by 10-11 1409 (June 1989) the number of bank branches operating throughout the Kingdom's cities and towns reached 955.

Commercial banks increased their capital and reserves by SR394 million during 1407/08 (1987) to reach SR13.5 billion constituting 10.5 percent of total bank deposits and 7.1 percent of total assets. To strengthen their financial positions, banks continued, during 1988, to increase their capital and reserves which rose by SR1.4 billion or 10.4 percent.

Total loans disbursed by the specialized credit institutions during 1407/08 stood at SR5.9 billion, while loan repayments amounted to SR6.4 billion. At mid-1408, the total amount of outstanding loans and advances was SR166.6 billion. The lending institutions successfully implemented a government plan encouraging them to utilize their own resources from repayments of loans to meet the credit requirements of various productive sectors.

During 1407/08, the Kingdom's oil exports rose by 14.4 percent to SR76.5 billion. This was mainly due to improvement in oil prices during 1987 after their continuous decline during the preceding four years. Non-oil exports also increased by 32 percent to reach SR10.4 billion, raising the value of total exports by 16.2 percent to SR86.9 billion in 1407/08 against SR74.8 billion in 1406/07.

Merchandise imports (FOB) increased by 8.3 percent to SR68.5 billion during 1407/08 compared to SR63.2 billion in 1406/07. The increase in total imports, which was much lower than that in total exports, was partly attributable to higher world prices. As a result, the trade

surplus recorded an increase for the first time since the decline which began in 1402/03. The improvement in the balance of trade was due to improvement in oil prices and the considerable expansion of non-oil exports which grew by 50 percent during 1408/09 (1988). These favorable developments reflected positively on the current account of the balance of payments.

Asphalted roads expanded by 2,137 kilometers during fiscal year 1407/08 (1987). This raised the total length of asphalted road network in the Kingdom to 33,579 kilometers. Of these, 20,249 kilometers were main roads and 13,327 kilometers, secondary and feeder roads. The total length of agricultural roads reached 59,226 kilometers.

The Saudi railways made further progress during 1407/08 (1987). The railways carried 241,464 passengers, 1.3 million tons of dry goods and fuel and 34,087 containers. The Saudi Arabian Airlines (Saudia) also carried 10.3 million passengers, of whom 67 percent were carried on domestic flights and 33 percent on international flights. Cargo carried by Saudia during the same period stood at 176,593 tons.

The Kingdom's seaports witnessed further expansion in the efficient handling of the country's foreign trade, particularly, the growing non-oil exports. The number of piers operating at the seven commercial and industrial seaports at the end of 1408 reached 174 compared with 170 in the preceding year. Imports and exports handling operations increased by 4.8 percent. The volume of imports handled at the commercial and industrial ports amounted to 21.5 million metric tons during 1408. Non-oil exports rose by 20.4 percent to 46.7 million tons compared to 38.8 million metric tons in the previous year.

The total number of post offices operating in the Kingdom at the end of fiscal year 1407/08 was 603. There were also 641 mobile offices. Express post service was further expanded and the number of domestic offices undertaking this service amounted to 26 linking the Kingdom with 35 Arab and foreign countries. The telephone exchange capacity also increased to reach 1.4 million lines during 1988. The telephone service in the Kingdom covered 349 cities and villages and direct dialing linked the country with 181 foreign countries. The capacity of the telex exchange stood at 30,000 lines and its service covered 156 cities and towns linking the Kingdom with 41 countries.

The growth rate of the industrial sector improved from 0.2 percent in 1406/07 to 1.9 percent in 1407/08. Forty-four new industrial units, with total capital of SR452 million came into operation during 1407. With the addition of these units, the total number of operating industrial units by the end of 1407 stood at 2,061 and their total capital amounted to SR94.8 billion. Thirteen units, with total capital of SR30 billion, were owned by the Saudi Basic Industries Corporation (SABIC), and 10 units, with total capital of SR7.4 billion, by Petromin. The petrochemical industry accounted for the bulk of total capital investment in the industrial sector (55.2

percent), followed by construction materials industry (21.1 percent) metal products (12 percent), food and beverages (7 percent) and others (4.7 percent). The new industrial units established in 1407 provided 1,836 additional jobs, raising total industrial employment to 140,620. During 1987, SABIC's industrial units produced 6.6 million metric tons of petrochemicals, 1.1 million metric tons of fertilizers, 1.5 million metric tons of iron and steel rods and bars and 0.5 million metric tons of industrial gases.

Total electricity sales in the Kingdom went up by 6.5 percent to 48.9 billion kwh during 1407. Industrial consumption of electricity rose by 3.4 percent to 12.4 billion kwh accounting for 25.4 percent of total electricity sales during the year. The actual power generation capacity rose by 1.0 percent during 1407 to 14,909 megawatts hence, the peak load reached 10,889 megawatts. The number of subscribers by the end of 1407 was more than 2 million and the average consumption per subscriber amounted to 24,000 kwh.

The rapid industrial progress achieved by the Kingdom gained impetus due to government support and incentives, including the provision of concessionary loans and construction of industrial estates equipped with all necessary utilities. During 1407/08, the Saudi Industrial Development Fund and the Public Investment Fund disbursed loans to the industrial sector to the tune of SR532.7 million and SR382 million respectively. The cumulative loans granted by these funds to this sector reached SR11 billion and SR55 billion respectively. The total area of the eight industrial estates in the Kingdom (excluding those in the cities of Jubail and Yanbu') stood at 3,383 hectares. They have been provided with all necessary facilities required by private sector plants. Total development cost of current estates amounted to SR1.8 billion.

The Ministry of Industry and Electricity is constructing new industrial estates in Medina, 'Asir, Ha'il and Tabuk.

The Saudi Basic Industries Corporation made considerable progress in increasing its sales during 1987 which reached 8.2 million metric tons of various products, exported to over 65 countries. SABIC's revenues during the year totalled SR5.6 billion, and net profit stood at SR1.1 billion rising by 381.3 percent over the preceding year. SABIC's operational industrial complexes stood at 15 by the end of 1988.

The Ras Tanura refinery processed 165.9 million barrels of crude oil during 1988, while the export refineries operating at Yanbu' and Jubayl produced 97.0 and 93.5 million barrels of petroleum products respectively during 1987. The Rabigh export refinery, with a designed capacity of 352,000 barrels per day is expected to be operational in 1989. The domestic refineries in Riyadh, Jeddah and Yanbu' produced 142.8 million barrels of refined products during 1987, the Petromin Lubricating Oil Refinery (Lubref Jeddah) produced 1.63 million barrels of basic oils, recording a rise of 430,000

barrels over its design capacity. The Petromin Lubricating Oil Company (Petrolube of Riyadh and Jeddah) produced 1.23 million barrels of lubricating oils.

The three natural gas liquid plants at Ju'aymah, Yanbu' and Ras Tanura refinery processed 68.6 million barrels of propane, 40.9 million barrels of butane and 40.1 million barrels of natural gasoline during 1988. Aramco's output of natural gas liquids during the year rose to 149.6 million barrels, increasing by 18.8 percent over the preceding year.

The agricultural sector achieved an estimated growth of 16.4 percent during 1987 on top of a growth of 15 percent in 1986. Grain production was estimated at 2.6 million tons during the crop year of 1986/87. Of this total, wheat output amounted to 2.7 million tons, increasing by 15.9 percent. Barley production rose sharply and was estimated to have reached 162,000 tons, rising by about 34 percent over the previous year. The sizable increase was due to growing demand for barley by livestock producers. The Kingdom continued to make great progress in other agricultural products, particularly the production of vegetables and fruits which were estimated to have reached 1.1 million tons and 0.6 million tons increasing by 2.7 percent and 8.1 percent respectively.

The production of broiler chickens went up by 15.3 percent to 317,000 tons during 1987. The Kingdom's production of eggs during the same year amounted to 115,000 tons allowing a surplus of 15,000 tons for export. Estimates for the year 1408-1409 AH (1988) indicated that the agricultural continued to grow at a high rate with the value added amounting to about 11 percent during 1988.

The Saline Water Conversion Corporation increased its total water production to 509 million cubic meters of fresh water during 1408 compared to 486 million cubic meters in the preceding year, denoting a rise of 5 percent. To expand and exploit rain and underground water resources and raise underground water levels, the Ministry of Agriculture and Water constructed 180 dams with total storage capacity of 475 million cubic meters. Work is in progress on the construction of 4 new dams in Bisha and Hail. Final designs have also been completed for 11 new dams.

Total number of male and female students enrolled at the various levels of education in the Kingdom increased to 2.5 million during academic year 1407/08. The number of students (male and female) enrolled at the different levels of general education went up to 2.1 million during the year under review against 1.96 million in the preceding year. The number of students who were studying in various institutions of higher education increased by 6.6 percent. The increase in the number of students was matched with a rise in the number of the teaching staff and educational institutions.

Meanwhile, the number of the vocational training centers increased to 29 while the number of enrollments at these centers rose by 10.3 percent to 9,242. The number

of trainees who completed their training at the centers during the year reached 5,734.

The number of hospitals and primary health care centers run by the Ministry of Health rose to 157 and 1,438 during 1407/08 compared with 141 and 1,431 respectively in 1406/07.

The Ministry of Health is constructing King Fahd Medical City in Riyadh at a total cost of SR2.0 million. Over 40.0 percent of this project was completed up to the end of 1409 (1989). The City will include 5 hospitals with a total capacity of 1,425 beds, provided with highly-advanced medical equipment.

During 1407/08, the Real Estate Development Fund (REDF) disbursed loans with total value of SR3.97 billion. Of this total amount, 95.6 percent was for financing the construction of 13,978 owner-occupied houses and 4.4 percent for financing the construction of 290 investment-oriented housing units. The cumulative amount of loans disbursed by REDF up to the end of 1407/08 reached SR88.6 billion and financed the construction of 440,336 housing units.

Apart from the progress witnessed in the housing sector, the Kingdom made rapid progress in the field of urban development. This included public utility projects, such as water networks, sewage and storm water disposal systems, road asphaltting, lighting and public parks. Expenditure on these projects during 1407/08 amounted to SR1.3 billion.

SUDAN

Al-Bashir Defines Stances on Shari'ah, 'Popular Participation'

45040508 London AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
4 Sep 89 pp 10-13

[Interview With Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir, Sudanese RCC Chairman, by Muhammad Sayyid Ahmad 'Atiq: "AL-DUSTUR in Hot Dialogue With Lt Gen 'Umar al-Bashir; I Do Not Expect Full Support from Sudanese; We Have Our Program To Resolve the Southern Problem; We Have Decided Not To Reveal It to the Media so That It May Not Be Engulfed in Bargaining"; date and place not given.]

[Excerpts] [Al-Bashir] [Passage omitted] For more than 30 years, we lived with muddled policies that dragged the country backward day after day. This is why we decided that, upon assuming power, we would explore the dimensions of the problem carefully and would then move, with the participation of technicians and specialists, to detailed programs so as to steer away from offhandedness and muddled policies. Primarily, we are in the process of drafting the "national strategy" which incorporates the economic, political, cultural, information, military, and security strategies. Our country abounds with capabilities which will draw up all of this in detail.

The threats to national unity were, in our conviction, in the vast number of parties, (more than 30 parties), which existed in the arena. This was a main threat to national unity. Tribalism is next. With their meddling and their attempts to make cheap gains, the parties revived the tribal rancors which were embodied in the bloody conflict we encountered in Darfur and Kurdufan. Even in the south, we find tribal-based conflicts among the southerners. Then there are the religious sects and their conflicts, and there is the religious fanaticism of some tendencies. [passage omitted]

As for the retirement of officers, those retired fall into two groups. [passage omitted] As for the second group, which consists of middle-rank officers, they have been retired in light of the evaluation of their performance, capability, and general conduct. Don't tell me that there are among the middle and lower ranks we let go a capability which we could have utilized. In the evaluation reports we have received on them, their performance in the operation areas and their general conduct was below mediocre.

[AL-DUSTUR] In the economic axis of the program, you have inserted a prelude on the crisis, the corruption and the lack of production, and you have called for approaches that fight smuggling, hoarding, corruption, and the black market. All of the above problems and approaches focus on consequences, but they do not touch on the crux of the economic crisis. Here also you have failed to point out the main links, and have ignored the resolutions of the national economic conference which focused on the banks, taxes, and other issues spelled out unanimously by the Sudanese intellectuals and economists with their various tendencies. Moreover, you have not set a specific economic course for growth and development. You have only talked loosely of relying on the public, the private, and the cooperative sectors.

[Al-Bashir] Our course is based mainly on creating a healthy climate for the Sudanese economy. This is accomplished primarily by fighting all aspects of corruption in all of the state and private institutions. We have now begun by fighting the corrupters themselves. We have committees working in these areas. On the basis of the previous investigations existing at the Attorney General's Office and of the Auditor General's Office, these committees will bring people to account and refer them to the courts. Fighting corruption will give us a healthy climate. Second, we have pointed out that we will build the economy on a joint-sector basis. The public sector will undertake the infrastructure projects and the vital national projects. We will give the private sector the opportunity to operate cleanly and remotely from the past practices. We will devote special attention to the cooperative sector by entrusting it with the projects of the government agencies that are doing poorly. [passage omitted]

The southern issue is, as you have said, an issue of backwardness and of a feeling of oppression and injustice. When Sudanization, (replacement of the British by Sudanese citizens), was enacted, the southerners were

given 3 jobs out of a total of 800 Sudanized jobs. These are the roots of the issue. The problem erupted anew in the wake of the Addis Ababa agreement as a result of the intervention of some people, and because a conflict developed between a faction which demanded amendment of the agreement and another faction which rejected any amendment and which showed no flexibility toward amendment, keeping in mind that an agreement is a human effort that may err or hit the mark and that can be developed. The rigid approach toward the agreement is what caused the conflict to erupt anew, and more violently. These, in addition to the government's actions and the proclamation of the Islamic Shari'ah, are the roots. To deal with the problem, we must tackle its roots. We will not go to negotiations without a vision and say: Let us shake hands and end the issue. Absolutely not. We have our program, and we have decided not to reveal it to the media. I do not wish to reveal my program so that it may not be engulfed in bargaining. There is an issue of backwardness which we acknowledge and there are cultural, religious, and ethnic differences. We have overcome these differences by acknowledging them. There are numerous points of agreement which we will set aside so that we may discuss the points of disagreement.

Regarding the Shari'ah and the religious laws issue, a large sector of Sudan has been subjected to concerted partisan maneuvers aimed at making partisan gains. Perhaps, and only God knows, Ja'far Numayri proclaimed the Islamic Shari'ah to win over the support of the Muslim masses in the north when he lost all support. He proclaimed the Shari'ah laws which have since become an existing reality in Sudan. We have to deal with a reality which has aggravated and become more complex and highly sensitive as a result of the partisan maneuvering. Therefore, this reality has to be approached with the same degree of sensitivity. A large sector of the northerners advocate the Shari'ah, and another sector does not want it. The Christians and the animists don't want the Shari'ah. [passage omitted]

Balanced development and the distribution of wealth and power are all points which we will put on the negotiation table so that we may develop agreement on them. There are gradual phases in our program. Accordingly, our plan includes a preparatory phase to clear the air and then a phase for the conference, and I do not mean the loose constitutional conference. We do not wish to return to the old formulae. We want a plenary conference that includes the government and the [Garang] movement, in addition to influential national notables who are acceptable to both sides. Then there is the final post-solution phase of rebuilding the south. Shortly, perhaps in October, we will call for a conference which will be held under the name "the conference to rebuild the south." When peace is established, the southern citizens will need services such as roads, schools, hospitals, and so forth. We have nothing in the treasury which we found empty. Therefore, we must have a ready plan so that no void may develop when

peace is established, and so that the citizen may not feel that peace has not served him in any way and may not, consequently, rebel anew. As I have said in a previous interview, security and development are the two faces of the same coin. To preserve security, one has to create development with a premeditated vision.

[AL-DUSTUR] We were about to ask you about the parties to the agenda and the fate of the outcome of a constitutional conference. You have referred in your statements here and in a press statement yesterday to a national conference. Can you talk to us more precisely on this matter?

[Al-Bashir] The parties to the conference will be the government, the movement, and national notables, i.e. notables who are influential men of opinion in society, who are acceptable and who will take part in the negotiations without any rigid opinions. We will be largely in agreement because we are the ones who have lived with and suffered from the problem. This is what I mean. Therefore, we will be the people most eager for a solution, without seeking to make a partisan or personal gain. The agreed conference resolutions will be implemented and will not be left hanging in void so that the parties may come and resubject them to debate, with al-Sadiq al-Mahdi rejecting them and the DUP [Democratic Unionist Party] accepting them. This will not happen. Agreement will be reached on the resolutions, the resolutions will be implemented, and the problem will be ended procedurally and executively.

[AL-DUSTUR] Who do you specifically mean by the "national notables?" Are they people who do not belong to political parties?

[Al-Bashir] Among the Sudanese people, you will not find an individual who is not affiliated with a political party. But there are those who are blindly fanatic to their party and their opinion, and those who possess a nationalist spirit, a broad vision, and an open mind. [passage omitted]

[AL-DUSTUR] What, precisely, is the form of the democracy about which you have been talking and which you have been advocating strongly?

[Al-Bashir] It is popular participation.

[AL-DUSTUR] How?

[Al-Bashir] In this phase, we will implement this plan which I have in front of me, namely the popular salvation committees law. At present, this participation will be tantamount to preliminary participation in the various areas on the basis of the previous experiences with the popular and regional government laws and other laws. Initially, this will be the form of participation. Consultations on the issue have been completed, and a

law on this participation will be passed in the next few days. This is the first phase. At a later phase, we will issue a law on popular participation. At present, this law is the subject of consultation. According to this law, participation will be at the level of management, services, and the distribution of food supplies, and even the level of provincial development, security, and other aspects. The law will be issued shortly, God willing. We will then move to the phase of participation in the decision-making at the central level. In this regard, we should note that the Political Committee is consulting with numerous "influential" notables in the various areas to develop a formula that avoids the two other formulas: The parties formula and the Sudanese Socialist Union, (Numayri's party), formula.

Connection With the Islamic Front and the Fate of Laws

[AL-DUSTUR] Regarding your movement's connection with the Islamic National Front through a significant number of the coup command members, you have repeatedly denied this connection. But observers and citizens in the various circles continue to believe strongly that the connection exists. The proof cited to this effect are numerous, including:

- The line you have taken toward the southern problem is the front's line in part and parcel. The front is the only party which rejected the previous agreements and which strayed from national consensus, employing the same logic which you employ and which is based on the claim that the agreements are no more than partisan schemes and political maneuvers!
- The front is the only party eager to maintain the September laws or similar alternative religious laws; you want to submit these laws to a popular referendum!
- All of the undersecretaries and deputy provincial governors appointed recently and a large number of the cabinet ministers are front members!
- The large-scale retirement movement in the government departments has been made according to lists prepared by the front or by front members working in these departments!
- A majority of the retired army officers are officers who are enthusiastic for solving the southern problem within a democratic framework and in accordance with the Sudanese peace agreement of 16 November and who are also enthusiastic for the national constitutional conference!
- The organizations implicitly permitted to engage in open action are facades for the front, such as the General Federation of Students and other student unions, the Building Youth Organization and others!

[Al-Bashir] As far as this accusation is concerned, we came when there was a government in place and when certain forces were participating in that government. All of those forces had interests in that government. When we toppled it, it was a foregone conclusion that the

government forces would consider us a part of the opposition facing them. At the time, the Islamic Front was the opposition whereas nearly all the other parties were in the government. This is normal. On the other hand, we believe that opposition does exist and we cannot imagine full support from the Sudanese. An opposition comes into existence to fight the existing regime, as we saw in the case of the Constituent Assembly (parliament). So we will face attack and war from our opponents. The accusation that we are connected with the front is a part of the war against us. This is a foregone conclusion. They will not say that we are Unionists because we have rebelled against the liberalism on which the unionist movement [DUP] relies, and because associating us with the unionist character will gain us the broad popular base which the unionists possess. Moreover, we cannot be accused of belonging to al-Ummah Party because were it so, we would have kissed al-Sadiq al-Mahdi's hand instead of arresting him.

As for the proof you have mentioned, our program for the south is not the front's program but a program supported by many Sudanese citizens. Even al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, whom you tell me supported the agreement, supported it because he was faced with two specific options: Either support it, or go to jail or home. He did not accept the agreement. It was imposed on him. As for the retirement lists, show me anybody who will tell me that we retired so and so because he is a communist, for example. We have a data center to gather information on people. We must first clear the path of all the corrupters, lax and negligent. If they are members of other parties, then it is the fault of the parties who harbor them. I don't believe that those retired have ever been party members because they are individuals whose sole concern is their personal interests and who have engaged in middleman-ship acts from within the government bureaus. As for the organizations, there are students only. There is no Youth Federation operating now, no Building Youth, no Renaissance Vanguard, and no Federation of Sudanese Youth. The student organizations are not front organizations, but organizations selected and elected by the students. We will not be able to dissolve them. They operate, issue their papers, and do everything from within Khartoum University. We operate within an existing reality. The youth have not opposed the coup and they are a sector which can be put to use and whose capabilities can be touched off. On this basis, and regardless of party membership, we have relied on the youth so that Sudan may benefit from them, their tendencies notwithstanding. The youth are now working with us with great enthusiasm, God be thanked. As for the appointments, every Sudanese has his party affiliation, as I have already said. If we were to look for the unaffiliated, we would find that they do not possess the other required qualities. For example, a member who represented the DUP in the Constituent Assembly and who headed one of the assembly committees has been appointed governor of the Central Province. We beg you not to generalize. Not all of them are from the front. There are those who have obvious party affiliations, such

as Abu-Zayd Muhammad Salih who was representative of the Communist Party in the recent government. Because he is capable, we have benefited from him without permitting his being a communist to stand as an obstacle between us. He is now an advisor to the Sudanese Maritime Lines. We have entrusted him with the duties of board chairman, even though we had dissolved the Board of Directors. He is the only one we have kept. Wherever capability exists, we will make use of it, as long as the work of the individual concerned is not influenced by his party affiliation, and as long as such an individual is not a party leader who aspires to gain power through his party.

[AL-DUSTUR] You have said in your statements and in your program that you will submit the Shari'ah to a popular referendum if no agreement is reached on the issue through dialogue.

What is intended by the Shari'ah? Is it intended to mean the September laws?

Who are the parties to this dialogue?

In the dialogue and before you resort to a referendum, what is your position personally and your collective position as a council?

Can you abolish the September laws and why don't you abolish them?

[Al-Bashir] To start, our call for submitting the Shari'ah to a referendum is proof of our disagreement with the front because the front has never proposed such a thing at any time, considering that its principle is that there can be no referendum on God's law. As to what is the alternative, this is the issue on which we will submit a proposal to John Garang. We will discuss the proposal with him at the national conference I have told you about so that the alternative may satisfy the Muslims, may not anger the non-Muslims and may please the Christians, the animists, all the Sudanese and all the legists. We will submit our proposal for discussion. If we fail to persuade, we will seek the opinions of the various other parties and submit them to a referendum. We will submit our vision, the front's vision, and any other weighty vision to the people in their entirety.

[AL-DUSTUR] What are the features of your proposal, which is something new?

[Al-Bashir] The features of our proposal are: Not to apply the Shari'ah in areas with a non-Muslim majority.

[AL-DUSTUR] The Shari'ah again?

[Al-Bashir] Yes, the Shari'ah.

[AL-DUSTUR] Haven't you said that the September laws will be abolished and that you have a proposal for an alternative?

[Al-Bashir] Yes, if the alternative is the Shari'ah. If the four restrictions are applied, they will not be applied in

the south, in the minority areas, or to the non-Muslims. If the Muslims wish to apply the Shari'ah or other laws to themselves, then they are free to do so. We will not impose on them what they do not want. Nor will we impose on the others what they do not want. By the way, the people do want the Shari'ah, as evidenced by the fact that the tribal peace agreement in Darfur was accomplished on the bases of Shari'ah rules by applying the rule of "blood money" which is one of the rules of the Islamic Shari'ah. The Shari'ah in this case does not mean the Shari'ah established by Ja'far Numayri, i.e. the Shari'ah calling for amputating limbs. Islam is tolerance and compassion. Compassion and justice are among God's attributes. This cannot be overlooked. The Shari'ah is not the restrictions and not the narrow popular concept. The Shari'ah is morals, tolerance and coexistence. I am confident of what we have in mind, and I stress that when the southern citizens and others learn of it, they will demand that the resolution include them! This is our vision. You will learn the details later.

[AL-DUSTUR] There are still numerous questions. But tell us about the fate of more than 700 professional journalist and of tens of technicians and designers of whom the two government papers, (which are in the process of being published), can absorb no more than 10 percent at most.

[Al-Bashir] We cannot again permit the publication of more than 30 papers. Health is in degrees, as our people say. Now, we will publish two national papers by decree. We will then evaluate the experiment and establish a press law. God willing, the field will be open for everybody to work when development is created and stability is established. Each of them will find a job.

Industry Minister Complains of Administrative Obstacles

45040504a Khartoum AL-QUWWAT AL-MUSALLAHAH in Arabic 13 Aug 89 p 4

[Interview with Minister of Industry, Dr Muhammad Ahmad 'Umar, and Deputy Undersecretary for Industrial Oversight, 'Uthman Amin, by 'Uthman al-Sadi: "Sudanese Textile Factory Will Resume Production and Tire Inventory Will Be Put on the Market"; date and place not specified]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted]

[AL-MUSALLAHAH] Do you think that the Ministry of Industry in its present form and with its jurisdictions can pull the industrial sector out of its abyss?

['Umar] First of all, the Ministry of Industry in past eras used to be a weak ministry stripped of all its powers, and its jurisdictions overlapped with numerous other authorities. Under the national salvation government, however, it has regained all its powers under the law it submitted to regulate industrial activity in the country, a law previous governments were slow in passing for many years.

As for the industry's collapse, the ministry has now put its hands on all the problems and our problem can be just about narrowed down to the time factor. We do have a qualified and capable cadre at all levels and many prepared studies, which have been blocked by government instability and a weak Ministry of Industry that lacks independence, are awaiting implementation. Now that the ministry's powers have been restored and the government is well established, these studies can be implemented with required precision and seriousness. [passage omitted]

Absence of Industrial Oversight

[AL-MUSALLAHAH] But the ordinary citizen is not aware of the presence of specifications, quality control, and industrial oversight agencies. What do you plan to do to strengthen these agencies?

[Uthman]: One of the major problems facing us in our oversight function is the lack of a specifications law. Such a law has been submitted more than once to the cabinet but has not been passed. Nonetheless, we in industrial oversight have submitted specifications for a number of commodities, such as oils, soap and food-stuffs, prepared by several committees. But enforcement of these specifications requires the force of law because we do not have any legal power. It is difficult for us, for example, to go into the factories. Moreover, weak action and failure to prosecute violators detract from our effectiveness, and consequently, do not give a hoot about industrial oversight.

Actually, industrial oversight is not as effective as it should be and does not cover the industrial sector. But now that the law has been restored, it will exercise all its powers and all those who violate industrial rules and bylaws will be punished. [passage omitted]

Sudanese Textile Factory

[AL-MUSALLAHAH] What do you have to say about the millions of pounds in salaries the government gives to the Sudanese Textile Factory when the plant is not in operation?

[Umar] Botched fiscal policies were the main reason for the failure of all factories in general and the textile factory in particular. This is due to the lack of infrastructures and production requirements. This is the problem the factory is facing now and the reason why it has been shut down. Because the factory had a large workforce, the government stepped in to resolve the payroll problem for one month in the form of a loan to the factory. We as a ministry of industry have been in contact with the factory's management and with competent authorities, and we have ascertained that the factory has the ability to operate and cover a great part of its expenses and can no longer turn to the government for help in meeting its payroll.

[AL-MUSALLAHAH] A large number of the crises are caused by the tire shortage. How do you plan to handle this problem?

[Umar] [passage omitted] This is no longer the case because we will supply them with the hard currency they need from loans and commodity aid programs. The undersecretary for fiscal affairs has approved the transfer of a portion of the commodity revenues to the factory to cover its current need of \$5 million and we have reached an agreement with the factory's management to offer them the necessary aid, but we will not put up with shortages or shoddy work. The current set prices are fair to the factory, the dealer, and the consumer, and the factory's management has agreed to put all its inventory on the market. The only thing left is for them to buy the stuff at the fixed price. Moreover, the factory does not dictate its terms to the ministry, but only asks for financing to import raw materials. [passage omitted]

Developing Pharmaceutical Industry

[AL-MUSALLAHAH] Is there a plan to develop the pharmaceutical and medical supplies industry, especially since many of the requirements, such as cotton and glucose for example, are not available and the industry has generally fallen on hard times?

[Umar] Given their great importance, the ministry is giving the industries special priority with respect to financing from official market revenues and foreign aid. We can say that this is an easy industry which can be developed. A medical supplies factor will be built in al-Jadid al-Thawrah area and a private sector factory project is on the verge of being approved. There are many other medical factory projects such as the hypodermic factories and other plants. As for the absorbent cotton factory, it is able to meet our needs as well as the needs of a number of African countries. It relies on leftover cotton from the textile factories and its major problems are marketing and the lack of chemical and spare parts supplies. We will give this factory special attention and solve all its problems so that it may raise its output capacity and increase its revenues as an investment power to be reckoned with in the future.

Conference Criticizes Foreign Press, Warns of Spying

45040504b Khartoum AL-QUWWAT AL-MUSALLAHAH in Arabic 24 Aug 89 p 5

[Article by 'Imad Sayyid Ahmad: "Foreign Media Deliberations Probe Areas of Weakness and Deficiency"]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] For three days, the conference room at the Grand Hotel was the scene of serious deliberations, lasting from Sunday, 20 August, to Tuesday, 22 August. These deliberations held by an elite group of specialists who presented a number of working papers about foreign media management, media security, our media's state of affairs, and the role of telecommunications in mirroring Sudan's bright image to the outside. As part of the deliberations, Dr 'Abd-al-Latif 'Abd-al-Hamid, director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Media Division, discussed the present state of our foreign media and Captain Aman Salah Muhammad

Adam shed light on media security. Following is the upshot of the two presentations. [passage omitted]

Dr 'Abd-al-Latif 'Abd-al-Hamid emphasized that most of the countries of the world, including the fraternal, friendly, and neighboring African and Arab countries, do not know much about Sudan and some of them do not even know its geographic location. The information they receive about our country is largely incorrect and misrepresented and is supplied by ignorant or malicious and conniving sources. We must realize that many foreigners think of Sudan as a backward and impotent country, a country whose people practice racial and religious persecution, and indeed, slavery. We are accused of being warmongers and of using famine as a weapon to kill our fellow citizens. This gloomy picture and these biased thoughts are imbedded in the minds of countries that carry much weight and influence. [passage omitted]

The chief of the media division stated that the most striking thing afflicting our diplomatic missions abroad is the lack of information material. His excellency explained that there are no studies or research on select topics of interest to world public opinion such as the war in the south, the peace issue, the Islamic Shari'ah or rebuttal of allegations of slavery in Sudan. There are no books or publications that inform about Sudan and its values, policies, and economic and tourist capabilities. [passage omitted]

A positive agency with an important media role to play in presenting the bright side of Sudan to the outside world is suffering from miserable failure and great deficiency. It is thus giving the biased foreign intelligence agencies a free hand in manipulating and distorting the image of Sudan in order to serve their colonialist objectives and arrogant practices, and allowing their puppets to engage in negative reporting via foreign media missions and correspondents.

Capt Aman Salah Muhammad Adam, representative of the Sudan Security Agency who was charged with presenting a special paper on media security, said: "The foreign media, notwithstanding its positive features of providing information about our country, helping it to open up to the outside world with a view to solving many of its domestic problems and stimulating tourism, presents a great deal of peril, including the threat of espionage which is used to exert pressure and social and economic influence. It is no secret that the information media has been a boon to the spy business, affording it legitimacy, freedom of movement, easy access to information, and espionage under a media cover provided with or without the knowledge of the particular medium or any of its members. [passage omitted]

"In its essence, media security includes the adoption of a set of procedures aimed at deriving full benefit from the special characteristics and advantages of the domestic and foreign media, without harming political, military, and economic state secrets, and without offending the citizenry's religious beliefs or presenting the people's

social activities in a negative light. It is also aimed at warding off the negative impact the information media can have on the people to block any success that may be reaped from their destructive activities, be it through rumor, negative propaganda, or any other vehicles."

Capt Salah Muhammad Adam cited another danger related to intervention in the country's internal and political affairs. He pointed out that such intervention may occur directly or indirectly, that it often generates mistrust between the government and the people and is used to influence public opinion, through press and radio reports, with the purpose of imposing on the government positions that may be incompatible with its policies and circumstances.

His excellency added that one of the foreign media threats is peddling information obtained for the expressed purpose of selling it to some professional media, or acquired by chance through legitimate media business, in which case the danger lies in the way the information is presented in the media or exploited for intelligence. There is also false reporting and biased analysis. Some correspondents file false reports on Sudan on purpose, thus costing the government a great deal of effort to remove their effects. Furthermore, truthful news reporting with biased analysis, serving specific objectives, wittingly or unwittingly, puts the government in a difficult position domestically and internationally and takes much effort to correct and refute. One means employed by the foreign media is negative reporting that highlights the government's negative phenomena and suppresses its accomplishments and depicts it as an unstable and impotent regime, thus impacting negatively on its ability to conduct its diplomatic and economic business and weakening its negotiating position.

The security agency officer also pointed out that a number of foreign media members file scandalous reports on human and social activities in Sudan and avoid attaching a clarification by someone who is familiar with the subjects they cover explaining the reasons and symbolic meanings of the phenomena in question. This gives the audience a negative impression of Sudan as an uncivilized, backward, and racist nation.

Capt Adam also cited certain technical precepts aimed at keeping the foreign media under check. These precepts include supplying the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with information about foreign journalists and press institutions, setting up a biographic card file on foreign journalists and correspondents at the Media Division of the Ministry of Culture and Information, and assigning a security officer to escort media representatives and delegations. There are also the security precepts whereby the Sudan Security Agency has the right to issue instructions to approve or deny entry visa requests by media members. The Passport, Immigration, and Naturalization Office has the right to grant the visas based on security agency recommendations. The visa in question

may be issued by any of our embassies abroad or at the Khartoum airport. Visa applications are subject to three types of scrutiny.

As for permission to move about and take photos, it is granted by the Passport Department also on the recommendation of the Sudan Security Agency, the Internal Security Department, and the military intelligence authorities in the relevant areas. This is subject to current conditions in the area stated by the foreign media members and to the nature of the mission and the type of applicant. In these kinds of permits, recommendations in normal areas must conform to the three recommendations in operations areas.

During the foreign media seminar, the security agency representative called upon the competent authorities to establish a foreign media watchdog section at the Ministry of Culture and Information to monitor and gather information on any media establishment or member that engages in any kind of media activity detrimental to Sudan. He concluded by saying that the security agencies, in cooperation with official foreign media establishments, seek to protect the security methods, and consequently, the security and safety of the country.

Exporters' Union Head Discusses Pricing Effects on Trade

45040494 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT
in Arabic 28 Aug 89 p 7

[Interview with 'Abdallah 'Abd-al-Basit, chairman of Sudanese Exporters Union in Khartoum: "Chairman of Sudanese Exporters Union to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: 'Commodity Prices Fixed and Middlemen's Costs Dropped; Unified Exchange Rate Is Required for Equal Transactions and Imports'; first two paragraphs are AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT introduction; date and place not given]

[Text] The Sudanese economic sectors, particularly the trade sector, have been recently subjected to sudden changes aimed at reorganizing the markets. The prices of both locally produced and imported consumer goods have been fixed. The Sudanese public has received these changes with utter satisfaction. The new fixed prices have dropped the costs introduced by middlemen. The prices of imported goods have been based on the dollar exchange rate as set by the Sudanese banks. To the public's satisfaction, the prices have dropped as a result of the new changes. But at the same time, the changes have brought before the Sudanese courts various lawsuits, complaints, and appeals by merchants.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has conducted the following interview with 'Abdallah 'Abd-al-Basit, member of the Pricing Committee, the Exporters Union chairman, and the official in charge of the crops branch, who has taken part in solving the price problem:

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Since the new regime assumed power, the Sudanese trade sector has been dealt

effective blows which have led to reducing prices and to the partial closing of shops. What is the real situation and how has it been tackled?

[Abd-al-Basit] The new regime's recent assault on the Sudanese trade sector has resulted in a good and firm reorganization of the markets. New prices have been more clearly set for imported goods and the prices of locally produced goods have been announced officially. The damage sustained by merchants dealing with locally produced goods has been smaller than that inflicted on importing merchants. The reason in the first case is that merchants purchase local goods through middlemen. With the new pricing policy, the costs introduced by the middlemen have been dropped. Thus, it seems as if new prices have been set whereas what has actually happened in the markets is the establishment of control over the markets and the reenactment of the pricing system. If middlemen continue to be excluded and if direct dealings with factories are maintained, then the prices will continue to be the prices declared by the Ministry of Industry.

As for the losses on imported goods, the new government has set the prices on the basis of the free dollar exchange rate as determined by the banks, namely 12.30 pounds per dollar. In fact, these goods entered the country by way of equal transactions in which the dollar exchange rate amounted to nearly 20 pounds per dollar, which is higher than the rate set by the free market. To counter this imbalance, the government has calculated the exchange rate at 12.30 pounds per dollar. The reason for the imbalance is that the previous Ministry of Commerce set two prices: One for exports through equal transactions and one for ordinary exports. For example, the Ministry of Trade set the price of watermelon seeds at \$600 per ton and at \$250 for ordinary exports in return for cash. Another example is that it had set the price of hibiscus sabdorrissa [karkadi] at \$750 per ton for ordinary exports and at \$900 per ton for exports through equal transactions. This difference in price dictated purchasing the shortfall in goods from the black market. Therefore, what is required is to set a unified dollar exchange rate for both equal transactions and free currency exchange.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Why did the price confusion develop?

[Abd-al-Basit] The truth is that the previous ministry ignored the Export Pricing Committee. This opened the way for middlemen. But now, this committee will meet with officials of the ministry and of the Bank of Sudan to settle the issue of export prices. As for the Import Pricing Committee, it has met with the commissioner and set amicable prices to protect both the merchant and the consumer.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] What is your opinion of the new export and import policies declared by the ministry?

[Abd-al-Basit] At a meeting with the minister of commerce, we, as exporters and importers, learned that the policy of the new ministry is to promote Sudanese exports and to solve the export problems so as to

increase the export revenues. As for imports, the ministry has suspended the licenses for imports through equal transactions and intrinsic resources and has kept the licenses issued for imports by way of the free market resources, i.e. imports with foreign exchange available to the banks. I believe that if this policy continues, consumer prices will decrease. Moreover, the reexamination of export procedures and the announcement that the hard currency revenues of past exports will be brought into Sudan instead of being kept abroad—I believe that these steps will reflect positively on the economic situation and will strengthen and enhance this situation.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] What distinguishes Sudanese livestock and plant exports?

[Abd-al-Basit] Let us begin with plant production. Some Sudanese plant products are unique, meaning that Sudan controls the production of these commodities at the international level, such as gum arabic, watermelon seeds, sesame seeds, hibiscus sabdorrissa, both the millet and maize varieties of Sudanese corn, fodders, such as oil cakes, and green cumin [anise]. All these products are distinguished by excellent quality and flavor. The millet crop and the sesame and peanut oil cakes have a high protein content and the maize crop, used to produce livestock and poultry fodder, has a high vitamin A content. I should note here that the Cairo International Fair certified our green cumin production as the best of its kind in the world.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] How are matters proceeding in connection with the export of crude chromium?

[Abd-al-Basit] We export crude chromium primarily to East Europe. It is well known that this crude is one of the best crude chromium varieties produced in the world.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] What about the agricultural and livestock exports?

[Abd-al-Basit] For livestock, the main market is the Arab world, especially Egypt. The international prices of our livestock exports are high by virtue of the high quality of their meats. As for agricultural exports, we have begun to export mangoes on a large scale.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Numerous producers complain of the reexport of Sudanese goods. They also complain of vacillating export policies. What is your opinion in this regard?

[Abd-al-Basit] First, the exporter must be given a rewarding exchange rate in comparison with the local cost. It is also necessary to reduce production costs by subsidizing agricultural production requirements and to assist livestock breeders. Moreover, it is necessary to deal with the problems of internal and external transportation. Delay in the delivery of fodders and access to the importation of non-Sudanese fodders seriously harms livestock. Generally, it can be said that Sudanese agricultural and nonagricultural exports are facing major problems, including the fact that numerous factories in the world

have designed their machinery according to the volume and quality of Sudanese exports and that any change in export policy may lead to big losses, considering that these factories may be compelled to look for more convenient goods and better delivery. Therefore, the new Sudanese regime must stabilize export policies, must exert efforts to find solutions to the problems facing these exports, must develop solutions to increase exports and must unify the free dollar exchange rate, whether for general exports or exports to the agreement countries. I should note here in the context of the problems facing Sudanese exports, particularly agricultural exports, what happens to fruit exports. We often find that shipping costs exceed production costs of the exported commodity. Moreover, fruits need to be packaged properly to insure that they are delivered to the consumer and to the foreign market fresh and of high quality.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Recently there were confrontations between economic sectors which affected Sudanese exports.

[Abd-al-Basit] The fact is that the Ministry of Commerce and exporters may conclude crop export contracts that may be opposed by other Sudanese circles because of a difference of opinion. This happens because of a lack of coordination. It used to be that more than one side concluded the contracts. For example, a previous minister of commerce concluded a contract to export corn to Jordan in return for pharmaceutical drugs. The deal was not carried out because of other contracts concluded by the Bank of Sudan.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] How can an export policy be established to gain markets?

[Abd-al-Basit] Exports require that a clear export policy be established, beginning with the early production season and until the goods are delivered to the consuming countries at proper times and according to their markets' needs. An export policy should not be changed in mid-season. Any sudden change during the season causes big losses to both exporter and consumer.

Crop Production Up Despite Administrative Obstacles

Crop Production 8,000 Tons

45040524 Khartoum AL-QUWWAT AL-MUSALLAH in Arabic 27 Aug 89 p 1

[Article: "Acreage Cultivated With Improved Seed for 1989-90 Produces 8,000 Tons"]

[Text] The acreage planted to produce improved seed for 1989-90 has amounted to 1,000,430 feddans, with an increase of 3,441 feddans over 1987-88.

Dr Ahmad Abu-al-Qasim, general director of the Ministry of Agriculture's General Directorate of Seed Production, has stated this to the SUDANESE NEWS AGENCY, adding that it is scheduled to set up stations

for seed distribution in Khartoum, Wad Madani, San-nar, 'Atbarah and Halfa al-Jadidah. He noted that directorate profits amounted to 3.5 million pounds in 1987-88. Dr Abu-al-Qasim also pointed out that the Seed Production Directorate operates on a commercial basis and meets 15-20 percent of the agricultural sectors' needs. He said that there are four stations for the production of irrigated seed and that another station is under construction. This is in addition to three mechanical stations that rely on rainwater and that supply agricultural projects with seed. Dr Abu-al-Qasim also noted that there are four seed stores in the central and eastern provinces and that it is scheduled to build other stores in the second phase of the project. He said that some stations experience a shortage of water and electrical power.

It is worth noting that the first phase of the Sudanese seed project, which ends in June 1990, seeks to supply 50 percent of the country's needs for improved seed. Work on the project began in the 1982-83 season.

Irrigation Problems, Mismanagement

45040524 London AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
11 Sep 89 pp 36-37

[Article by Kamal-al-Din al-Sirr: "Sudan: Possibilities of Failure of Agricultural Season"]

[Excerpts] Khartoum—Sudan's agricultural season is facing numerous obstacles that threaten it, particularly irrigated agriculture, with failure. We find that these obstacles and problems have continued to saddle the irrigated sector for several years. Some of them are connected with agricultural requirements and some with sabotage and corruption in the agricultural sector's planning agency. [passage omitted]

Problems With the Current Agricultural Season

The problem of regular irrigation is a major one which hampers Sudan's irrigated projects and prevents this sector from performing the role set for it in the national economy. At the same time this problem is impoverishing farmers and forcing them to abandon agriculture and seek marginal vocations. This is due to the Irrigation Ministry's inability to perform its role in clearing canals, ditches, and drains. For example, the volume of silt carried into al-Jazirah projects amounts to nearly 46 million cubic meters. [passage omitted] As a result, we find, for example, that nearly four irrigated sections of al-Jazirah projects have not been cultivated in the past four seasons, in addition to nearly 40,000 feddans in the al-Rahad agricultural project in the past season and approximately 12,000 feddans in the White Nile project, as well as others. [passage omitted]

Taxes

Despite the participation of the General Federation of Sudanese Farmers in the committee which sets the prices of cotton crops—a participation which has enabled the

federation to familiarize itself with numerous facts, including the estimated millions of pounds paid in middleman fees to the marketing and cotton companies, the taxes and the reserve-building monies collected by the government from the producer without discussion and without his approval—the farmer feels that these taxes rob him of his effort and his sweat. This is why demands are being made for reexamining these taxes and fees, for reviewing the marketing costs generally, and for creating a marketing apparatus with fixed costs.

In the light of these indicators, farmers in irrigated projects (al-Jazirah, al-Rahad, al-Suki, the White Nile, and the Blue Nile) stopped cultivating cotton in the middle of last June. Moreover, the season is experiencing a shortage of lubricants, oil, gas, spare parts, maintenance equipment, and production inputs. The acreage scheduled to be cultivated with cotton in al-Jazirah project, for example, is 440,000 feddans. It is not expected that this acreage will be cultivated. Even if it is cultivated, it will not be irrigated. The acreage to be cultivated with wheat this season amounts to 400,000 feddans. [passage omitted]

The debt of the al-Jazirah project farms has amounted to 460 million pounds and that of al-Rahad project to nearly 40 million pounds. The same applies to the other irrigated projects. The Ministry of Irrigation has caused all these debts because it has failed to fulfill its obligations to maintain and clear the canals and ditches, thus causing the acreage prepared for cultivation to be exposed to the shortage of irrigation water, despite all the preparations. This situation has turned into debts owed by the farmer who lost his crop because of the water shortage. The preparation and tilling of the land has turned into debts which multiply annually. This is why no increased production is expected for the next season.

TUNISIA

Draft Law Aims at Regulating Legal Profession

900A0032a Tunis LA PRESSE DE TUNISIE
in French 3 Sep 89 p 4

[Text] As part of its special session the House of Deputies met Friday afternoon in a full session presided over by Mr Slaheddine Baly and attended by Dr Hamed Karoui, minister of justice, and Mr Daly Jazi, minister of public health.

The House began its work by examining a draft bill to regulate the profession of attorney.

A number of considerations dictated the reorganization of the legal profession, among them: growth in the number of law students, causing a rise in the number of lawyers; the multiplication and complexity of trials; the emergence of a specialization of sorts among judges and attorneys.

Protecting Lawyers' Immunity

The law regulating the profession of attorney was significantly amended on all these points. Amendments included setting an age limit for admission into the profession, banning simultaneous practice of the law and any other paid activity, and shortening internships to accommodate increased numbers of legal interns.

The draft bill also aims to train young aspiring lawyers by stepping up the number of training conferences and by lengthening them for those with advanced law degrees. Because the legal profession is both profession and practice, university degrees alone do not suffice.

It also aims to give lawyers the protection they need to practice their profession. The president of the Republic, during his audience at the National Association of Attorneys office on 27 October 1988, gave instructions to that effect and the bill provides protection while respecting judicial bodies.

Another goal of the draft bill is to cut short any suspicion of either judges or lawyers by forbidding lawyers who are former judges from setting up practice in cities with jurisdictions in which they formerly sat for more than 2 years.

The new provisions also forbid this category of attorney from arguing cases in those jurisdictions for the same length of time, from arguing for or against a spouse, ascendants or descendants. Likewise, any attorney elected to the House of Deputies or to a city council seat may not take legal action against the state or city, nor against the government if he previously held administrative responsibilities.

Because of the responsibilities peculiar to the profession, the draft bill also seeks to guarantee attorneys' immunity by requiring them to forward funds collected on behalf of their clients to those to whom they rightfully belong within a fixed time period, or to put the funds in a safe place should this prove impossible.

The draft bill is also concerned with protecting the rights of minors and persons under guardianship by requiring attorneys—even in cases where fees were agreed upon by the lawyer and the minor client's guardian—to use the fee procedures established by the Association Council. In doing this, they must apply the rule requiring all transfers of a minor's assets by a guardian to be specially audited.

Decentralizing the Association Council

The draft bill also aims to revise the provisions governing the makeup of the Association Council and to decentralize by creating regional sections of the council. A single national structure will be maintained, with general powers, and care will be taken to make administrative offices more accessible to citizens and to bring them up to snuff.

The draft bill also seeks to make provisions on the election and working methods of these different bodies

more democratic, to match the country's democratic orientation, notably by:

- having legal interns of one year's standing participate in choosing their representatives;
- limiting the mandate of the council dean and members to two successive terms to ensure rotation of responsibilities and to offer lawyers more leadership opportunities in the organization;
- simultaneously lengthening the term of office from 2 to 3 years to allow the council to better implement its program.

The draft bill also seeks to set time limits for challenging these institutions' decisions, or any other decision concerning the profession, to ensure rapid execution while protecting the interests of members. At the same time challenge procedures must be streamlined, using civil procedures as a model, in order to end disparities between courts. In the absence of specific laws on the matter, procedures and administrative judgements must be brought into harmony.

Another objective of the draft bill is to enable the administration, represented by the Ministry of Justice, to exert better control over the legal profession, as is done by other ministries that have authority over liberal professions in their province, for example, the Councils of the Associations of Physicians and Engineers.

Lastly, the purpose of the draft bill is to establish temporary provisions concerning the age limit for becoming an attorney and the ban on simultaneous legal practice and teaching in university schools of law. It will allow those over the age of 50 at the time the law is adopted to enroll before the end of the current year and will regularize the legal situation of lawyers teaching at the university level by a decree that would be issued at the proper time.

83 Articles Under 9 Headings

The draft law contains 83 articles under the following 9 headings:

- the profession of lawyer,
- its objectives,
- conditions for admission,
- the position of lawyers,
- the rights and duties of lawyers,
- governing bodies,
- sanctions and amnesty for lawyers,
- recourse,
- pension fund and other provisions.

Several deputies spoke during the debate to highlight the importance of this new law regulating the profession of attorney, 31 years after the adoption of profession's first statute on 15 March, 1958.

The speakers pointed out that revision of the legislation governing the legal profession, after sending back the statute amendment several times, was part of the spirit

of change and of the new democratic course that had made it possible to liberalize many basic laws.

Certain deputies underscored the important role played by the legal profession: Its members follow a calling that is at once noble, honorable, humane, and extremely delicate, by helping to preserve justice and by taking on the duty of defending persons under the jurisdiction of the court. They insisted on the necessity of maintaining the independence and freedom of the legal corps and of protecting the profession.

In addition, the deputies called for a revision of certain articles, including article 75 stipulating the recovery of fees for all civil cases except those concerning [government] food allowances, or commercial or penal cases in which the plaintiff is the Lawyers Aid and Pension Fund. The speakers noted that those fees were likely to increase the burden of expenses borne by those under the jurisdiction of the court.

A few deputies also stressed the importance of openness and tax justice for members of the bar. They called for clearly established rates for various services for all kinds of cases judged by Tunisian courts, in order to curb tax fraud and better protect the interests of citizens.

Article 81 also caught the deputies' interest, as it concerns the ban on holding a university teaching post while practicing law.

Some deputies indicated their full support for the terms of the article, believing that university professors should devote themselves wholly to teaching and scientific research, while others thought the article was in contradiction to the civil-service statute.

In addition, several speakers inquired about the procedures that applied should a lawyer refuse to plead certain cases.

Others recommended improving the financial status of members of the bench, by attaching to the law a series of additional measures intended to upgrade the status of judges, bailiff-notaries, and court experts.

970 Judges and 1,400 Lawyers

Responding to the deputies' speeches, Dr Hamed Karoui praised the close cooperation between the legislative and executive branches and expressed pleasure at their serious and exhaustive approach, evident from the debates, to the legal profession. It is an occupation that concerns, besides lawyers in the strict sense of the term, judges, university professors, holders of law degrees, students, and defendants in general.

He said the government was motivated to bring this draft bill before the House of Deputies by a desire to strengthen the Association of Attorneys, out of respect for their role of helping to propagate justice and defending persons amenable to the court. He categorically denied that the government had any intention of marginalizing or dividing members of the bar.

The minister of Justice noted that the new draft bill gives his department new powers, namely to control the profession and safeguard its honor. He stressed that the end is not to reduce the profession's independence.

"In this new law," he said, "we tried to reconcile everyone's interests and to preserve the right of defense as well as the authority of judges, the prestige of the courts, and the rights of defendants, all to firmly establish a state based on law."

The minister then reviewed, statistics in hand, the changes that have occurred in the judicial and legal field.

He indicated that there are currently 970 judges, and that the number of lawyers climbed from 400 in 1958 to 1,400 today. He also pointed out that law-school graduates certified to practice law and law students now number in the thousands in the country's four law schools.

Dr Hamed Karoui insisted, moreover, on the necessity of establishing between lawyers and judges relations based on respect and cooperation in the service of justice.

He affirmed that the new law offered lawyers full guarantees that they would be able to practice with peace of mind and complete independence.

Dr Karoui also said that, by implication, the authority and sacredness of the judicial institution prohibited lawyers from attacking or defaming the court. On the contrary, the court must enjoy the respect of all, and first and foremost of lawyers, as the prestige of the bench is inextricably intertwined with that of the state and guarantees the stability of society.

On that point, the minister noted that harmony and accord between judges and lawyers were apt to make defendants feel secure in their rights and confident that they had no injustice or prejudicial bias to fear. Such a state of affairs can only sanction and bring about a state based on the rule of law.

After these explanations, the deputies began discussion of the draft bill article by article.

The different articles were approved unanimously, except for articles 8, 66, and 81, which were opposed by one deputy. Two abstentions on article 75 and one abstention on articles 23, 29, and 66 were also recorded.

Put to a vote of the deputies, the draft bill as a whole was unanimously approved.

Around midnight, Mr Slaheddine Baly ended the sitting and declared closed the special session of the House of Deputies, during which the deputies examined 17 draft bills.

The president of the House remarked that the draft bill on revising the Labor Code that was to be examined by the House is still under discussion in the committees. It will be presented to the House later.

Central Bank Publishes Fiscal Operations Totals
45190140c Tunis JOURNAL OFFICIEL DE LA
REPUBLIQUE TUNISIENNE
in French 4-8 Aug 89 p 1211

[Article: "Central Bank of Tunisia; 10-Year Balance as of
10 June 1989"]

[Text]

Central Bank of Tunisia	
10-Year Balance as of 10 June 1989	
Assets	
Gold coin and bullion	3,770,811.473
Subscriptions to international organizations	7,811,842.518
Assets in special drawing rights	6,787,203.885
Assets in foreign currencies	679,037,862.023
Special economic cooperation accounts of the State and approved intermediaries	142,057,923.013
Postal current account	4,998,729.808
Discounted bills	721,992,931.932
Discounted bills and checks being collected	9,619,502.696
Bills being collected	14,035,009.872
Standing advance to the State	25,000,000.000
Repayable advance to the State	5,446,875.000
Advance to the State against special drawing rates	5,053,125.000
Security portfolio	4,842,643.145
Fixed assets	19,199,253.850
Bills drawn on the state to guarantee foreign loans	273,072,260.692
Miscellaneous debtors	5,526,148.892
Suspense accounts and prepaid expenses	259,869,352.050
Total	2,188,116,475.849
Liabilities	
Bills and coins in circulation	810,640,456.777
Current accounts of banks and financial institutions	7,352,746.036
Interventions on the money market	128,285,727.676
Government accounts	130,609,383.698
Allocation of special drawing rights	19,775,332.500
National guarantee fund	23,892,596.314
Other sight and time liabilities	463,836,954.458
Depositors of bills receivable	14,035,009.872
Economic cooperation accounts	143,740,116.775
Provisions	15,072,385.140
Special reserve	15,747,452.981
Legal reserve	3,000,000.000
Capital	6,000,000.000
Bonds as counterparts for foreign loans	273,072,260.692
Miscellaneous creditors	61,587.549
Suspense accounts, accrued expenses and deferred credits	132,994,465.381
Total	2,188,116,475.849
Certified copy of the registers	
The governor,	
Ismail Khelil	
Legalization of the signature: Chairman of the Municipal Council	
Certified copy: the Chairman of the Board of the IORT [Official Printer of the Tunisian Republic]	

Article Reports on Need for Additional Housing

900A0032b Tunis *LA PRESSE DE TUNISIE*
in French 3 Sep 89 p 5

[Article by Soufiane Ben Farhat: "Housing for Every Citizen: A Challenge"]

[Text] The right of every Tunisian family to housing is one of the priorities of the economic and social development plan. That is why a new housing strategy was decided on in June of 1988, a strategy that fits neatly into the series of social measures for the disadvantaged and those of modest means.

The interest in housing is not mere lip service. Specialized committees set up in the departments concerned—including the department with oversight in the matter, the State Secretariat for Housing and Regional Development—have set to work implementing the aforementioned housing strategy.

There are even indications that the new draft bill on the promotion of real estate development, intended to encourage low-cost housing, private initiative in the matter, and the mobilization of all resources that could give housing a big push, is ready to go and will be discussed during the next Council of Ministers.

This draft bill, part of the government's social policy, deals with two essential components of the housing strategy, namely:

- Reserving state assistance and subsidies for low-cost housing;
- Optimizing the use of the country's human, institutional and financial resources, notably by improving the productive capacities of SNIT and AFH [expansions unknown].

Mediocre Housing Stock

Since all reform strategies assume that one first come to terms with the existing situation, it is undoubtedly necessary to point out that the national housing-stock supply is rather mediocre, if not deficient in some places. You may be the judge: the April 1984 general population and housing census showed housing stock of 1,313,000 units, compared to 874,000 in 1966, or annual growth of 3 percent. However, the number of rudimentary housing units is estimated for 1984 at 116,000, or 8.8 percent of the total.

The percentage of permanent housing in good condition rose from 74 percent in 1975 to 91 percent in 1984, while 91 percent of urban dwellings were hooked up to electricity and 82 percent had piped-in drinking water in 1984, compared to 69 and 55 percent in 1975, respectively.¹

Despite this relatively good performance in creating and upgrading housing stock between 1975 and 1984, the average occupancy rate did not drop much, falling from 5.4 people per dwelling in 1975 to 5.3 in 1984—although

in the district of Tunis the rate fell from 6.3 people per unit to 5.2 people during the same period.

Looking at crowding, the percentage of one-room dwellings in urban areas declined from 35 percent in 1975 to 21 percent in 1984, while the percentage of 3- and 4-room units rose from 28 to 41 percent. The percentage of 2-room dwellings remained constant (32 percent of housing stock).

Disparities and Needs

When all is said and done, the disparities remain, especially in the area of what State Secretariat of Housing specialists describe as "real crowding in housing." Thus, 54 percent of urban households in 1984 lived in units of two rooms or less (80 percent of households in the country) and 21 percent of households lived in one-room units.

The Housing strategy, therefore, aims to stop up the gaps, on the one hand, and meet continually growing needs on the other.

For the five-year period of 1987-1991 alone, housing needs were estimated at 300,000 starts, or 60,000 units a year. No fewer than 60,000 housing units need to be renovated over the same period, or 12,000 units a year. One thousand hectares of land a year, based on 40 housing units per hectare in urban areas, will need to be developed for sites, at the rate of 350 hectares for the district of Tunis and 650 hectares for the other urban areas. One third of the cost of developing these sites will be borne by the AFH and the other two-thirds by private developers.

Footnote

1. Source of figures cited: State Secretariat for Housing and Regional Development.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**Al-Sharīqah's Nonoil Trade Statistics Provided**

44040522b Dubayy *AL-BAYAN* in Arabic 18 Jul 89 p 2

[Article: "Al-Sharīqah's Trade at 1.1 Billion Dirhams Through April; Imports Rise by 15 Percent to 743.3 Million"]

[Text] The value of al-Sharīqah's nonoil foreign trade across al-Sharīqah ports rose in the first quarter of 1989 to 1,174.5 million dirhams. The volume of foreign trade was at 305,140 tons of assorted goods and commodities.

The figures were among new trade statistics released by al-Sharīqah's Department of Customs for the first four months of the current year.

According to the statistics, the country's imports through al-Sharīqah's ports rose in the first four months of the current year to 743.3 million dirhams compared with

686.3 million dirhams in the same period of 1988. This is an increase of 57 million dirhams or 15 percent.

First quarter imports entering al-Shariqah ports included foodstuffs and livestock valued at 296 million dirhams, potables and tobacco valued at 37.3 million dirhams, nonedible nonfuel raw materials valued at 6 million dirhams, and fossil fuels and related lubricants valued at 11.2 million dirhams.

Imports also included animal and vegetable oils and fats valued at 3.8 million dirhams, chemicals and related products valued at 56 million dirhams, manufactured goods valued at 136.4 million dirhams, transport machinery and equipment valued at 122.4 million dirhams, and assorted manufactured goods valued at 73.6 million dirhams. Also imported were other goods and commercial transactions.

Japan, imports from which were valued at 79.9 million dirhams during this statistical period, was the largest source of imports entering al-Shariqah ports, followed by India which supplied goods valued at 69.5 million dirhams, and the United States imports from which were

valued at 55.5 million dirhams. As a supplier, West Germany ranked fourth with 49 million dirhams, followed by the United Kingdom at 45.7 million dirhams, France at 38.3 million dirhams, Turkey at 26 million dirhams, Iran at 25.4 million dirhams, and Chile which supplied imports worth 24.5 million dirhams.

Sri Lanka supplied imports worth 22.4 million dirhams and ranked tenth among al-Shariqah suppliers in the first quarter of this year.

The volume of goods of all kinds and types which passed through al-Shariqah ports in transit to other ports and countries during the first quarter of this year was 77,080 tons valued at 322.4 million dirhams.

Goods re-exported from al-Shariqah ports during the same statistical period were calculated at 20,942 tons valued at more than 94 million dirhams.

The volume of goods exported from the ports of the emirate during the first four months of the year was logged at 6,838 million tons with a total value of 14.7 million dirhams.

INDIA

Papers Report, Analyze Gandhi Speech in Belgrade**Summary of Speech**

46001006 Bombay *THE TIMES OF INDIA*
in English 6 Sep 89 pp 1, 24

[Article by L. K. Sharma]

[Text] Belgrade, Sept 5. In a speech marked by punch and rhetoric, the Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, today called upon fellow non-aligned countries to fight the economic domination of the North and expressed his conviction that the movement would once again emerge successful.

Mr. Gandhi, who was repeatedly cheered by the plenary of the ninth non-aligned summit, appeared to be throwing India's weight behind those trying to resist any dilution of the basic principles of the movement.

The Prime Minister, who had handed over chairmanship of the non-aligned movement to Dr Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe at the last summit in Harare, declared that so long as domination and the question for domination in any form prevailed, the world of the non-aligned movement would not be complete.

Mr. Gandhi apparently had in mind such baiters of the non-aligned movement who kept suggesting that the movement should wind itself up since a new multi-polar world marked by detente had emerged.

To the developed North, Mr Gandhi had this to say: "We do not want confrontation; we want dialogue." He expressed India's deep disappointment over the refusal of the North to resume the North-South dialogue and over its conduct at the Uruguay round of negotiations.

Mr Gandhi regretted that there was little in the Uruguay round of negotiations thus far to reassure the developing countries that their concerns would receive priority attention or, indeed, any attention at all. In a sharp reference to the menacing posture of the North at these negotiations, Mr Gandhi said: "We are not going to be cowed by such pressures. We shall hold our heads high. We shall continue to negotiate in good faith."

The Prime Minister said the unfinished business of the Tokyo round of negotiations, which concerned developing countries most, was languishing in the background, while the focus now was being sought to be shifted on entirely new areas of special interest of a few developed countries.

"What is worse, those of us who dared to raise our voices have been threatened with retribution," Mr Gandhi said in a reference to retaliatory action threatened by some major trading powers.

Mr Gandhi told the non-aligned nations not to underestimate the threat to their economic sovereignty but urged them not to be daunted by the unjust world economic order. He reminded them of the movement's successful struggle against colonialism and political and military domination.

In large measure, the non-aligned had prevailed over these. It was time to concentrate efforts against economic domination. "For, if we do, I am convinced that it is our movement, once again, that will prevail."

Mr Gandhi, like Mr Mugabe yesterday, cautioned against any complacency arising out of relaxation of tensions between the superpowers and pointed out that it was dominance by economic pressure that was now emerging as the single most important threat to the independence, freedom and stability of the non-aligned countries.

Peace could be secured in a world purged of the quest for dominance. Dominance by direct colonial rule had virtually ended, but the pursuit of political dominance by subtle means continued. Dominance by military strength had been successfully resisted, but the quest for dominance by subversion [words illegible]. "Detente notwithstanding, peace is nowhere in sight," Mr Gandhi said.

Peace, he said, could not be brought through the mere control of armaments while encouraging the development of newer generations of weapons, nuclear and conventional. Peace demanded an end to the fanning of conflicts by proxy. Peace required the diversion of resources from armaments to development. Peace demanded a wholesome environment and the conservation of nature's gifts to life on earth. Peace needed a world free of the menace of drugs.

The theme of economic dominance of the world by a few nations ran through a major part of Mr Gandhi's speech which also covered at length the problem of environmental degradation. With a view to tackling the latter, Mr Gandhi came out with an initiative to establish a "planet protection front" (PPF) under the auspices of the United Nations.

Mr Gandhi's condemnation of the unequal world economic order was intended to strengthen the unity of the non-aligned and other developing countries, however, rich or militarily powerful.

Reviewing some of the charges taking place in the world economic scene Mr Gandhi regretted that despite these, little had changed or was set to change, in the world economic power structure, as between the developed north and the developing south. "The central issue in the present international economic order is the domination of the global economy by a few without regard to the interests of the many," he said.

Mr Gandhi said it was incumbent upon the non-aligned movement to challenge the doctrine of dominance in the economic sphere. There was nothing legitimate about a

system which perpetually posed a grave threat to the economic independence of the developing countries.

"In contrast to our aspirations for one world and one humanity, we are witnessing a fragmentation of the global economy. Multilateral institutions for international co-operation are being weakened or ignored. In the guise of economic groupings, there is a resurgence of economic regionalism," Mr Gandhi said.

Even as the incipient retreat from the bloc politics of the cold war was being welcomed, let the regional groupings not become new blocks of trade wars and economic confrontation, he said.

Protectionism and discriminatory trade practices of the developed countries were threatening development and this was particularly unfortunate at a time when many developing countries were undertaking major domestic economic reforms aimed at opening out their economies to a greater interaction with world markets.

The present international trading system was seriously skewed. The Uruguay round of negotiations offered the international community the opportunity of addressing itself to present distortions and establishing a rational framework of international trade.

In a review of the situation in southern Africa, the Prime Minister said that, at the Harare summit, the non-aligned countries had warned against a bloodbath that was in store in southern Africa if Pretoria did not mend its ways. The only way to forestall this dreaded bloodbath was through a dialogue between Pretoria and the genuine representatives of other people of South Africa.

HINDU Correspondent's Report

46001006 Madras *THE HINDU* in English
6 Sep 89 p 1

[Article by Malini Parthasarathy]

[Text] On the second day of the ninth Nonaligned Summit here, the focus has inevitably shifted to the backrooms of the conference, where the economic and political committees are at work on the draft declaration and statements, to which there have been tabled scores of amendments.

The summit, unlike the preceding ones, seems relatively low-key. To begin with, it is not seized of any major political or international issue as was the case with preceding summits to lend it colour or high interest value. The amendments tabled are relatively minor ones, indicating a far-less impassioned approach to the major regional issues and also the fact that with the initiatives that have been undertaken in relation to regional conflicts, sentiments on these issues are not sharply polarised.

Absent

Secondly, many of the high-profile leaders who often used the forum of the NAM [Nonaligned Movement] to

make punchy and even polemical points have not come to Belgrade. The notable absentees: Dr Fidel Castro of Cuba, President Hafez-el Assad of Syria, President Saddam Hussein of Iraq and Mr Lee Kwan Yew of Singapore. Both the Sri Lankan President, Mr R. Premadasa, and the Pakistani Premier, Ms Benazir Bhutto, have sent their representatives—the Foreign Minister, Mr Ranjan Wijeratne, and the Prime Minister's mother, Ms Nusrat Bhutto.

The presence of Libya's Col Muammar Qadhafi has however provided some colour. One highlight was a minor scuffle that ensued between his revolver-toting female security guards and the conference security personnel outside the entrance to the plenary session hall, with the Libyan guards refusing to put away their revolvers and produce their passes.

India today argued that the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) should not lose sight of the original direction set for it by its founders and should remain firmly anchored to the basic principles. The implicit appeal to the host country, Yugoslavia, to keep the NAM on course came in an address by the Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, to the summit plenary session this morning.

It was also evident that India was attempting to strike a balance between the two extreme positions that have crystallised during the summit. The former position, reflected in the stand of Yugoslavia, maintains that with the start of the dialogue between the two global powers, the NAM's role comes under question and needs a reexamination, while the latter, articulated by several African countries, was pinned on the assumption that the primal issue on which the NAM had been formed—the existence of colonialism—remained today. The Indian view, as articulated by Mr Gandhi, and being put across by the Indian delegation in the various drafting committees, is that if colonialism in its original form cannot be said to exist in the same way, requiring the response necessitated at an earlier period, certainly domination and pressure remain.

No Rest

Recalling the Belgrade Declaration of 1961 to make an effort to end all types of new colonialism and imperialist domination in all its forms and manifestations, Mr Gandhi said that this was "a task that still remains to be accomplished for colonialism might have ended but domination has not ceased". There could be no rest for the NAM until it ushered in a new world order based on 'the sovereign equality of nations, reflecting a true democratisation of international relations, anchored in non-violence and oriented towards the benefits of humanity as a whole'.

Mr Gandhi obviously did not make any reference to the controversy within the summit over Yugoslavia's suggestion for 'modernising' the NAM. But his restating the goals and the context of the Movement, his warm references to Marshal Tito, and his reminding the Yugoslavs that the NAM would expect them to adhere to the

direction given by Tito in conjunction with the other founders—showed that the concern that no dilution or wavering should take place was very much on his mind. "We are confident, Mr Chairman, that in the great traditions set by our first Chairman, Josip Broz Tito, you and your colleagues will lead us to a fuller realisation of the noble vision of our founders," he said.

Mr Gandhi dwelt comprehensively on the new international situation and warmly referred to the initiatives of the Soviet leader, Mr Mikhail Gorbachev. To Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev goes much to the credit for the new vistas that are opening up to mankind," he said. The process of nuclear disarmament 'has engendered an atmosphere in which confrontation has given way to dialogue and dialogue has led to the easing of conflict and the beginnings of cooperation,'" he said.

Greatest Threat

However, despite the growing acceptance of the need for coexistence, the optimism should not yield to euphoria, for "there is as yet no indication of the acceptance of a new world order in which domination and the pursuit of dominances will come to an end". "Dominance by military strength has been successfully resisted but the quest for dominance by subversion and proxy continues. It is dominance by economic pressure that is now emerging as the single most important threat to the independence, freedom and stability of the non-aligned countries", he said.

In his survey of regional issues, Mr Gandhi noted that "in Namibia, Fretoria persists in imperilling the prospects of free and fair elections...the intentions of the United Nations must not be thwarted, its endeavours must not be subverted or sabotaged..." in Kampuchea, "the refusal to identify and condemn the practitioners of a genocide, every bit as barbaric as Hitler's holocaust, stalls the search for a solution..." and in Central America "interference continues in various overt and covert forms". "The involvement of outside powers exacerbates regional tensions and aggravates regional conflicts. Solutions are imposed and the search for solutions made dependent on external exigencies...the cold war may have in some measure been suspended but durable peace remains a distant mirage".

In what must have been a reference not only to the Central American situation, but to the situation in the South Asian region also, Mr Gandhi said "peace demands an end to the fanning of conflicts by proxy".

Disappointed

It was now incumbent upon the Movement to challenge "the doctrine of domination", in the economic sphere, said the Prime Minister. "There is nothing legitimate about a system which mortgages the long-term interest of all to the short-term interests of some". He expressed disappointment that although the Uruguay Round 'offers the international community of addressing itself to the distortions' in the international trading system,

and 'establishing a rational framework of international trade', there was 'little in the negotiations thus far to reassure the developing countries that their concerns will receive priority attention or indeed any attention at all'.

In an oblique reference to the U.S. action of naming India under Super and Special 301, Mr Gandhi said 'What is worse, those of us who have dared to raise our voice have been threatened with retribution. We are not going to be cowed by such pressures'.

In the context of an argument that there was a need to become more self-reliant collectively, to reduce vulnerability 'to eternal economic factors over which we have little or no control, over which the dominant economic powers are denying us our right of control', the Prime Minister made some suggestions in the arena of South-South cooperation.

He said that there was a need to diversify the channels of economic, scientific, technological and commercial communication among the developing nations. 'We should explore the possibility of mutually beneficial direct financial intermediation between developing countries with financial surpluses and developing countries with the ability and potential to put these surpluses to productive use'.

Mr Gandhi said that a similar exercise was required to 'facilitate joint ventures, mutual investment flows and the transfer of technology among ourselves on a preferential basis'.

Nehru Award for International Understanding to Arafat

46001008 Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA
in English 1 Sep 89 p 1

[Text] New Delhi, September 1 (PTI). The prestigious Jawaharlal Nehru award for international understanding for 1988 goes to the PLO chief, Mr Yasser Arafat.

Announcing this here today, an official spokesman said the chairman of the state of Palestine will be the 23rd recipient of the award, which carries a cash prize of Rs 15,00,000 (convertible in foreign currency) and a citation.

The official announcement said that in honouring Arafat in the name of Jawaharlal Nehru, "We underline our commitment to support the fight of every people for freedom, justice and peace."

Arafat is known the world over as a "valiant fighter who has been engaged in the long and arduous struggle of the people of Palestine for their independence," the announcement said.

As the leader of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation, he has "struggled unstintingly for his people against imperialism and for the formation of a state of Palestine in which his people could have peaceful, independence existence," it noted.

Janata Dal Official Maneka Gandhi Talks to Press

46001007 New Delhi *PATRIOT* in English 5 Sep 89 p 5

[Text] [Passage omitted] into power at the Centre, state terrorism would go and the faith of the people would be restored.

Ruling out any dialogue with the terrorist leadership to solve the Punjab tangle if the Janata Dal was voted to power at the Centre, Mrs Maneka Gandhi said the dialogue would be held with all responsible citizens belonging to all communities in the state.

Replying to a question about the possibility of postponement of the Lok Sabha elections, she said it would be "very bad" of the Congress government if the Centre postponed the elections because it would be seen as a further sign of its 'weakness'.

Answering a question about punishing those involved in the November 1984 riots, she said there was evidence that some leaders, who were now in the Union cabinet, had been identified as leading groups of people in the riots and they still continued to enjoy power. Such people should certainly be brought to book and all riot victims rehabilitated.

She demanded setting up of a human rights court to look into the activities of the police in Punjab during the last five years. There were thousands of people who had been victimised in the state during this period, she alleged.

Mrs Gandhi said Union Ministers H. K. L. Bhagat and Jagdish Tytler Congress MP, Sajjan Kumar and number of Congress councillors of Delhi had been condemned by various human rights organisations for their alleged role in the November riots in the national Capital.

Commenting on the performance of Punjab Governor S. S. Ray, she said the people in the state say that in every circumstance he was allegedly behind provoking and working to increase tension in the state. His role in the state was not at all admirable, she opined.

She said Mr Ray was not within his constitutional rights to write to Haryana Chief Minister accusing the latter of inciting the people of his state on the even of the 'Bharat bandh' day to detain trains and vehicular traffic.

Mrs Maneka Gandhi said that by accusing the Haryana Chief Minister, Mr Ray had increased the gap between the Haryana and Punjab governments. Governors all over the country had become arms of the Prime Minister rather than of the President.

When asked whether the Janata Dal, if it came to power would reopen the Bofors gun deal issue, she said not only the Bofors issue but all major contracts awarded to foreign firms for 'consideration' by the present government would be probed.

Replying to a question about the infighting in the Janata Dal, she said it was a new party in which people had

come from different cultures and background. The main reason for the infight was the emphasis on positions. This question could be decided after the Lok Sabha elections, she added.

Correspondent on Irritants in Indo-Iran Ties

46001005 Madras *THE HINDU*
in English 7 Sep 89 p 6

[Article by F.J. Khargamvala: "Minor Irritant in Indo-Iran Ties"]

[Text] In mid-1988 when New Delhi was planning to participate in the Teheran International Trade Fair, entry visa was denied to the only official from the Trade Fair Authority of India to supervise arrangements.

Earlier this year, when the Iranian Foreign Office assigned an interpreter for the new Ambassador to India, the External Affairs Ministry withheld permission. Before that, Teheran refused to accept the posting at the Indian Embassy of a Foreign Service officer as a language trainee. Most countries would feel privileged at being selected as a place where other countries' diplomats could learn the language, but that is not the issue here.

Oneupmanship

These and similar instances indicate the level of pettiness and oneupmanship indulged in by the two countries, each with 5,000 years of history behind them. During the recent visit to India of the Iranian Foreign Minister, both countries agreed to talk frankly about giving each other consular access to detainees in the respective countries, but the agreement needs to be widened.

The Iranians are peeved that one of the regime's senior clerics and a close colleague of the late Ayatollah Khomeini was refused permission to enter India in early 1988. Indian officials say the problem goes back to the time when Iran began misusing and flouting conventionally accepted norms of international conduct.

When the Foreign Office sends a note to an embassy requesting a visa, the latter normally obliges out of courtesy. According to officials in New Delhi, it soon became apparent that Iran was availing of the prevailing norms to send to India agents provocateur and clerics, armed with diplomatic or official passports but whose work in India had little to do with matters other than meeting Muslim lecturers.

In 1987, at the joint commission meeting, Iran suggested that both countries abolish the need for visas. This was totally unacceptable to India. The Iranians continue to raise the issue and the Indian side diplomatically replies that the matter is under consideration.

Replacements Not Cleared

Over a period of time, both Governments, proud of safeguarding their rights, allowed the problem to snowball. A stage has now been reached where half a dozen

Indian embassy staff in Teheran cannot leave because the host country has not cleared their replacements. India also created problems for the Iranian Consulate in Hyderabad.

Seriously affected by this shadow boxing are mortals like journalists and tourists from both sides. A correspondent from an Indian fortnightly magazine, whose sister lives in Iran was repeatedly denied a visa until the Imam's death and rushed visa procedures enabled him to make a short visit. Other journalists are suddenly called up and told to leave well before their intended stay is over.

India, on the other hand, for some inexplicable reason has not allowed the TEHERAN TIMES to establish an office in New Delhi. The allocation made to the paper has lapsed. It has not yet dawned on the Indian Foreign Office that bureaucrats in Teheran have been officially advised to read the newspaper to keep abreast of the new Government's policies. The paper has now clearly run ahead of others in accurately predicting political appointments and developments.

Fishing in Muddied Waters

There is difference of opinion among Indian officials on handling such problems. One school of thought says India is too big and strong to worry about police reports about Iranians interfering in its internal affairs. In any case, some feel the fault lies on India's side and the Iranians are only fishing in muddied waters. Others feel it is because our system is too open and slack that it needs to be tightened up. Hence the screws are being turned on the Iranians.

What seems necessary is for both countries to sit down and have a heart to heart talk on the issue. Admittedly, it is an unequal argument because the Iranians believe that Muslims everywhere are its concern. Indeed, they argue that is what the 'Revolution' is all about. India cannot retaliate. Among other reasons, because the thousands of illegally resident Sikhs in Iran fear they will be gradually thrown out. Any Government in India showing reluctance to take them in would be pilloried. The other alternative may have security problems of a different dimension.

Either way, both Governments appear to have overlooked that in playing this game they are undermining the strongest bond between the two ancient civilisations, that of increased people to people exchanges. Apart from the modern day oil connection, it is this aspect that has made India one of the Iranians' favourite destinations, for study, work or just travel.

General, Others To Be Tried in Official Documents Case

46001001 *Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA*
in English 15 Sep 89 p 24

[Text] New Delhi, September 14. (UNI). A retired Indian army brigadier, a scientific adviser to the government and three other will be tried for allegedly contravening provisions of the Official Secrets Act and jeopardising the security of the state.

Brig (retired) R. S. Deol and Dr N. W. Nerurkar were arrested by the Central Bureau of Investigation [CBI] on November 9-10 last year, and several documents relating to the futuristic requirements of the Indian army were allegedly seized from their residence.

The additional chief metropolitan magistrate, Mr J. M. Malik, of the Tis Hazari lower courts yesterday committed the case to the sessions court for trial and directed that the accused be produced before the district and session judge, Mr Jaspal Singh, on September 23.

The CBI has charge-sheeted Brig Deol and Dr Nerurkar for unlawfully keeping 15 sensitive documents, two of which allegedly have the potential of affecting the sovereignty and integrity of the nation."

Brig Deol was prematurely retired on July 1, 1988, while he was functioning as a major-general in the weapons and equipment directorate of the army headquarters here.

The directorate processes documents for the procurement of arms and equipment by the army.

Army sources today confirmed that Brig Deol retired as brigadier only because he was not confirmed as major-general.

Dr Nerurkar headed the wings of the Centre for Advanced Studies in Electronics and the National Microwave Electronics Council under the department of electronics. He is said to be an electronics expert.

The others accused in the case were two industrialists and one of their employees.

Mr Malik, in his 17-page order, noted that the accused allegedly committed an offence which was triable by a sessions court under sections three and five of the Official Secret's Act 120-B of the Indian Penal Code.

Mr Malik said the prosecution cited the statements of four senior army officials as witnesses, that the documents seized from Brig Deol and Dr Nerurkar were "very important and could affect the sovereignty and integrity of the country."

The witnesses, who have given their statements on affidavits, are Major-General Tej Pratap Singh, Brig Atma Singh, Col Surinder Singh Choudhury and Lt Col Jitender Pal Singh.

According to CBI counsel, Mr Y. K. Saxena, two of the 15 documents seized from the accused were highly sensitive and the government servants had no authority to keep the documents in their personal custody.

Mr Malik rejected the argument of defence counsel, Mr Rajinder Singh, that the documents were "waste, innocuous and useless", and held that "to say that the documents are innocuous would be a crass misrepresentation of facts."

The judge further observed that "the two government servants should have refrained from fiddling with these documents". He agreed with CBI counsel that there was a prima facie case against the accused, triable in a sessions court.

IRAN

Biographies of New Cabinet Summarized

45040510 Tehran KAYHAN AL-'ARABI
in Arabic 26 Aug 89 pp 2, 6

[Text] At the conclusion of the session of the Islamic Consultative Majles held yesterday, Hojjat ol-Eslam Val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the president of the republic, read a letter addressed to the Majles Speaker regarding the names of members of his cabinet. The following is the text of the letter:

In the name of the Almighty

The honorable speaker of the Islamic Consultative Majles, pursuant to articles 87, 133, and 160 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran, I submit the names of 22 ministers to obtain the confidence of the Islamic Consultative Majles. The following are the names of the new ministerial composition:

1. Dr Mohammad 'Ali Najafi, Minister of Education.
2. Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Fallahian, Minister of Security.
3. Dr Mohsen Nurbakhsh, Minister of Economic and Financial Affairs.
4. Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, Minister of Foreign Affairs.
5. 'Abdol Hoseyn Vahaji, Minister of Commerce.
6. Dr Iraj Fazel, Minister of Health, Treatment, and Medical Education.
7. Engineer Mohammad Gharazi, Minister of Post, Telegraph, and Telephone.
8. Gholamreza Foruzesh, Minister of Construction Jihad.
9. Hojjat ol-Eslam Esma'il Shushtari, Minister of Justice.
10. Engineer Akbar Torkan, Minister of Defense and Logistics.
11. Engineer Mohammad Sa'idi-Kya, Minister of Roads and Transport.
12. Engineer Reza Nematzadeh, Minister of Industry.
13. Dr Mohammad Hadi Nezhad-Hoseynian, Minister of Heavy Industry.
14. Dr Mostafa Moin, Minister of Culture and Higher Education.
15. Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Mohammad Khatami, Minister of Islamic Culture and Guidance.
16. Hoseyn Kamali, Minister of Labor and Social Affairs.
17. Dr 'Isa Kalantari, Minister of Agriculture.
18. Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Abdollah Nuri, Minister of Interior.
19. Engineer Serajeddin Kazeruni, Minister of Housing and Urban Development.
20. Engineer Hoseyn Mahluji, Minister of Mines and Metals.

21. Engineer Gholamreza Aqazadeh, Minister of Petroleum.
22. Engineer Namdar-Zanganeh, Minister of Energy.

The letter was accompanied by the biographies of the ministers and the government's plans in the hope that the government can succeed in serving the heedful Iranian people through relying on the respected members of the Islamic Consultative Majles under the aegis of divine concern and adherence to the goals of his eminence, the supreme imam, may God hallow his secret [eulogy after the name of a deceased Muslim saint], and the guidance of the leader of the revolution.

Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, the President of the Republic,

28 Mordad 1368 [19 August 1989]

Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, Ministry of Foreign Affairs:

- Born in 1945 in Tehran; began his political struggle in 1961.
- Graduated from medical school in Tehran, and later acquired advanced specialization in pediatrics.
- Elected deputy to the Islamic Consultative Majles in 1980; has held the position of minister of foreign affairs since 1981.
- Has medical, academic publications.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Esma'il Shushtari, Ministry of Justice:

- Pursued religious studies in the cities of Qom and the most august al-Najaf for 10 years.
- Elected deputy to the Islamic Consultative Majles for two consecutive terms.
- Appointed chief of prisons in the country.

Eng Akbar Torkan, Ministry of Defense and Armed Forces Logistics:

- Born in Tehran in 1952.
- Graduated from the Industrial University with a degree in mechanical engineering.
- Served as governor of two governorates, Ilam and Hormozegan.
- Appointed chief of the Defense Industries Organization.

Mohammad Sa'idi-Kya, Ministry of Roads and Transport:

- Born in 1946, graduated with an MA degree from the School of Industry in 1969.
- Worked as an assistant in the Ministry of Roads, then assumed the position of minister of roads and transport in 1981.

Mohammad Reza Nematzadeh, Ministry of Industry:

- Born in 1945 in the city of Tabriz,
- Obtained an MA degree in industrial administration in America.
- Served as minister of labor, then minister of industry and mines.

Eng Mohammad Nezhad-Hoseyniyan, Ministry of Heavy Industry:

- Born in Tehran in 1946.
- Obtained a bachelor's degree from the Tehran Technical College in 1970.
- Obtained an MA in America.
- Served as head of the Muslim Students Association in America and Canada.
- Served as the minister of roads, then as an assistant in the Petroleum Ministry.

Dr Mostafa Moin, Ministry of Culture and Higher Education:

- Born in 1951 in pious Usrah [to a pious family].
- Obtained a doctorate from Shiraz University.
- Served as the president of Shiraz University, and as a deputy in the Islamic Consultative Majles.

Mohammad 'Ali Najafi, Ministry of Education:

- Born in Tehran in 1951. Following completion of secondary studies in mathematics, he entered the university, graduating with a degree in engineering in 1974.
- Went to America on a scholarship, and obtained an MA in mathematics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, engaging in Islamic activities there in his capacity as secretary of cultural organizations of the northeast America region.
- Worked in the office of the assistant to the prime minister for revolutionary affairs.
- Appointed to the post of president of the Industrial University.
- Beginning in 1981, held the post of minister of culture and higher education for 3 years.
- Has occupied the post of education minister in the government of Engineer Musavi since 1988.

Shaykh 'Ali Fallahiyan, Ministry of Security:

- Hojjat ol-Eslam Val-Moslemin Shaykh 'Ali Fallahiyan was born in 1949, in Esfahan, in the bosom of a pious family.
- Traveled to the city of Qom for religious studies at the age of 14.
- Received religious instruction under the holy martyr and the unjustly treated martyr, Dr Beheshti.
- Has written a number of books on the principles of the Kharijite sect and chapters on objective philosophy and interpretation.
- Participated in Islamic revival activities under the leadership of the late Imam with a group of fighter students, such as the martyr, Mohammad Montazeri, and was arrested twice.
- After the victory of the Islamic revolution, he held the position of president of the Islamic revolutionary court in Abadan and was the president of the housing organization in the governorate.

- Succeeded in uncovering a number of networks of hypocrites in Khorasan and Bakhtaran.
- Appointed to the leadership of the Islamic Revolutionary Committees in the country.
- Worked as an aid, and then as a deputy security minister.

Dr Nurbakhsh, Ministry of Economic and Financial Affairs:

- Born in 1948 in Esfahan; graduated from the College of Economics at Tehran University.
- Obtained a doctorate in international economics.
- Served as a university professor, governor of the Central Bank, and a representative of the inhabitants of Tehran in the Islamic Consultative Majles.

'Abdol Hoseyn Vahaji, Ministry of Commerce:

- Born in 1949 in Tehran, has a university degree in business administration.
- Served in the Commerce Ministry as an aid, then deputy minister, then superintendent of the ministry.
- Has written numerous studies on the Islamic banking system.

Dr Fazel, Ministry of Health:

- Obtained a doctorate from Tehran University, and a specialist degree in general surgery in the United States.
- Served as culture and higher education minister in 1984.

Eng Gharazi, Ministry of Post, Telegraph, and Telephone:

- Born in 1941 in Esfahan.
- Obtained an MA in electro-mechanics from Tehran University.
- Imprisoned in 1971 because of his struggle against the entombed regime of the Shah.
- Served as governor of Khuzestan Province, petroleum minister in 1982, and post, telegraph, and telephone minister from 1985 until the present.

Dr Khatami, nominee for the Ministry of Islamic Culture and Guidance:

- Dr Mohammad Khatami was born in 1943 in the city of Ardakan, Yazd. His father is a religious scholar, and founder of the academic school in the city.
- He completed his primary and intermediate studies in the aforementioned city, then moved to Qom to continue his seminary studies, completing a course in Kharijism, Islamic jurisprudence, and legal principles.
- In the beginning of 1979, at the behest of the martyr Dr Beheshti, he travelled to the Islamic center in Hamburg.
- Was elected for a first term to the Consultative Majles for Ardakan, Yazd; in 1980, his Eminence, Imam (may God be pleased with him) the sublime, issued an

order for him to assume supervision over the KAYHAN newspaper.

- Has occupied the post of Islamic culture and guidance minister since 1982.

Hoseyn Kamali, Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs:

- Born in 1954. As a youth, he worked in small production factories while studying simultaneously, until he obtained his secondary school certificate in metals from an industrial school.
- Played a distinguished, active role in labor strikes during 1976, 1978, and 1979 in Tehran.
- Bore responsibility for the workers department in the Islamic revolution leadership council at the beginning of the victory, and was then elected as a member of the Islamic Consultative Majles for three terms, and president of the labor and administrative affairs committee, and chairman of the labor and administrative affairs committee.

Dr 'Isa Kalantari, Ministry of Agriculture:

- Dr 'Isa Kalantari was born in 1952 in the city of Marand. After completing primary and intermediate studies, he graduated from the Agricultural and Livestock Raising College in Urumieh in 1973.
- He obtained an MA degree from the University of Nebraska in 1978, and a doctorate from the University of Iowa in 1981.
- After the victory of the revolution, Dr 'Isa Kalantari held a number of positions, including those of supervisor of the Agricultural Extension Organization, supervisor of the Research and Seed and Seedling Improvement Institute, and assistant for agricultural education affairs.
- Since 1988, he has been responsible for the Agriculture Ministry in the government of Eng Musavi.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Nuri, Ministry of the Interior:

- Hojjat ol-Islam Nuri was born in 1949 in the city of Esfahan.
- While continuing his studies in the field of ancient studies, he participated actively in political gatherings and demonstrations against the Shah's regime. After the victory of the Islamic revolution, Hojjat ol-Eslam Nuri was entrusted with numerous responsibilities, the most important being as follows:
- Supervisor of the Broadcast and Television Organization until the formation of the organization's supervisory council at the end of 1980.
- Deputy foreign minister in the government of Martyr Raja'i.
- Representative of his Eminence Imam (may God be pleased with him) in the Construction Jihad Organization in 1981.
- Representative of the population of Esfahan in elections for the third session of the Islamic Consultative Majles, and chairman of the Majlis Budget and Planning Committee for 3 years.

Serajeddin Kazeruni, Ministry of Housing and Urban Development:

- Born in Esfahan in 1325 [1946].
- Graduated with an MA in construction engineering in 1355 [1976].
- Appointed as a building aid in this governorate at the end of 1358 [1979].
- Appointed as an aid to the Ministry of Interior for affairs of the Islamic Consultative Majles and urban development in the beginning of the month of Mehr 1360 [23 Sep-22 Oct 1981].
- Assumed the position of minister of housing and urban development in the government of Eng Musavi on 27 Mordad 1363 [18 August 1984].

Eng Hoseyn Mahluji, Ministry of Mines and Metals:

- Eng Hoseyn Mahluji was born in 1947 and received his mechanical engineering certificate from the Technological University in Tehran in 1971.
- A member of the Islamic Consultative Majles for three terms as the representative of the population of Kashan, and a member of the industries and metals committee.
- Has held the positions of deputy general commander of the armed forces for arms industries, member of the Supreme Research Council of the Defense Industries Organization, and member of the Central Defense Council in the country.

Eng Aqazadeh, Minister of Petroleum:

- Born in Khoi in 1327 [1948] and completed his primary and intermediate studies in this city.
- Continued his studies at Tehran University in 1349 [1970], graduating in mathematics and computer science.
- SAVAK [the Shah's secret police] pursued and arrested him with his colleagues in 1354 [1975].
- Was appointed as a Foreign Ministry aid for administrative and financial affairs.
- Obtained the confidence of the Islamic Consultative Majles on 15 Khordad 1361 [5 June 1982] as minister of state for executive affairs, then served as an executive aid to the prime minister.
- Was appointed petroleum minister in 1364 [1985].

PAKISTAN

Bhutto Urges Sindhis To Join Army

46000006a Karachi THE MUSLIM
in English 22 Sep 89 pp 1, 6

[Text] Hyderabad, Sept 21: Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto Thursday called for active participation of the people of Sindh in the defence of Pakistan's integrity and sovereignty by joining the army.

She was addressing the installation ceremony of Colonel Commandant of the Sindh Regiment held within the precincts of the center entitled as the Khurshid Alam Stadium.

Tracing the history, she said that it were the people of Sindh who strictly adhering to the teachings and works of scores of "Darveshs", "Aulias", "Sufis" and mystic poets of Sindh had resisted tooth and nail onslaught of foreign aggression and domination and their subjugation. They had eventually succeeded in throwing them out of the province.

She also recalled the role played by the people of Sindh during the Pakistan Freedom Movement and the supreme sacrifices they had rendered for the achievement of the objective.

Benazir Bhutto exhorted the people to imbibe and inculcate the same love and spirit for Pakistan as they had practically demonstrated during the Pakistan Movement.

Benazir Bhutto said that significant improvement had been made in the organization of Pakistan's army and doors of the three service's land, air and navy had widely been opened for young and enthusiastic youth so that the sense of national integration and oneness was promoted and maintained.

She recalled that sometime in the past opportunities to join the army had been denied to a particular section of the people. She, however, said, these opportunities had been revived to all section of people, irrespective of caste, creed or color.

She asked the people to avail the opportunity and discharge the responsibility they owe to the nation.

She said that the responsibility of defending Pakistan did not lie alone with the army. It was to be equally shared by the people of Pakistan.

Referring to the organization of the army in the province of Sindh, she said that development of Hyderabad Army Cantonment and the establishment of Army Cantonment at Pano Aqil in district Sukkur were some of the significant achievements made so far. Benazir Bhutto paid glowing tributes to the Pakistan's Army Jawans for the heroic role they had played in safeguarding the frontiers from outside aggression.

She said her government could not possibly remain indifferent to the outside threat. It was with this end in view that all possible resources were being mobilized to strengthen and consolidate Pakistan's Army.

Benazir Bhutto complimented Gen. Mirza Aslam Beg, Chief of the Army Staff, for the extraordinary interest he had taken in the establishment of the Sindh Regiment as a sincere effort to attract and lure the original inhabitants of the province of Sindh to share and supplement the defence of Pakistan by joining the regiment. This, she said, was also intended to promote the sense of pride as one nation.

She was sure that the objective with which the Sindh Regiment had been formed will yield the desired result in not too distant a future. She expressed her satisfaction

when informed that various army units in the province of Sindh had been merged into one for the effective working of the respective cantonments.

Benazir Bhutto said that Sindh regimental center occupies a distinctive position as it had earned a number of awards for the display of outstanding performance or professional capabilities by the Jawans.

Earlier she decorated Lt. Gen. Syed Zakir Ali Zaidi the new commandant of the Center with Lt Commandant insignias, amidst clappings.

On her arrival here from Nawabshah she was welcomed at the helipad among others by Gen. Mirza Aslam Beg, Chief of the Army Staff and Col. in Chief, Lt. Gen. Syed Zakir Ali Zaidi, new Colonel Commandant of the Sindh Regimental Center, Brig. Akram Ali Khan, Lt. Commandant, Lt. Gen. Asif Nawaz, Corp Commandant and high army and civilian officials, MNA [Member of National Assembly]s and MPA [Member of Provincial Assembly]s.

She was accompanied by Syed Qaim Ali Shah, Chief Minister, Sindh, Maj. Gen. (Retd) Naseerullah Babur, Maj. Gen (Retd) Imtiaz Ali, Adviser to the Prime Minister on Defence.

Earlier, Brig. Akram Ali Khan, Lt. Commandant in his welcome address said that last year three more battalions had been added to the Sindh regimental center bringing a total of its battalions to 24.

General Mirza Aslam Beg, Chief of the Army Staff said that the Army was an institution as envisaged participation of all sections of the people of the country for the purpose of preservation of collective cohesion, understanding, fellow-feelings and national integration.

He said that with the support and cooperation of the people of the country, it was a singular achievement of Pakistan Army that the country's frontiers from Siachin to deserts were fully fortified. It was symbolic of unity and oneness among Pakistanis as a solid nation.

Cutlining the activities of the Sindh Regimental Center, he said, that in next five years, it will become a center of high repute. He said his observations were based on the ongoing training and performance of the officers and jawans of the Center. He said it had always been his endeavour to treat jawans of all ranks with love and affection and lookafter their day-to-day problems concerning their dependents.

He said that I was with this end in view that a Rs. 100 million Army Welfare Fund had been floated to ensure respectable and honorable living of jawans and their dependents adversely affected by circumstances.

He said that it was proposed to make available monthly financial assistance from Rs. 500 to Rs. 700 to the deserving jawans and their families, in addition to the Government pensions they had been receiving. Quoting

statistics, he said, that there were 60,000 widows of the jawans who had laid down their lives during the army operations.

He said that there were 45,000 families who needed financial assistance as the pensions they had been receiving, was quite inadequate and insufficient.

Outlining the significant features of the scheme, he said, that Rs. 60 million had been granted by Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto while Rs. 40 million would be raised from the GHQ fund.

He recalled that Premier Benazir had granted Rs. 50 million from the Saver Raffle Scheme, besides Rs. 10 million announced on the occasion of her visit to the Siachin recently.

General Beg said that he and all the Army officers and jawans were highly thankful to Mohtarma Benazir for the generous help she had extended for the welfare of the handicapped jawans and their families.

He said he was also grateful to the Prime Minister for the interest she had always been taking in the Army's working.

Later Premier Benazir Bhutto planted a sapling in commemoration of the historic ceremony. She prayed that the sapling and the center may, simultaneously bloom and prosper, with passage of time.

Entire proceedings of the function were conducted in Urdu.—APP

Zarb-e-Momin Military Exercises Concern India

46000012b Peshawar *THE FRONTIER POST*
in English 15 Sep 89 p 6

[Text] The October military exercise, that the Indian press is worried about and is writing alarmist reports about, is to take place in the central region of the country, its nearest point to the Indian border being not less than 200 km. The GHQ in Rawalpindi has put its Indian counterpart in New Delhi on notice about it and invited the Indian military attache stationed in Islamabad to attend the exercise as an observer.

In contrast this to what India did in 1986-87 with its colossal manoeuvres called Brasstacks: The exercise was held east and southeast of Pakistan only 70 kilometres from the border. Pakistan was never informed, let alone invited as an observer. The flamboyant Indian commander was drilling his army in the art of attacking Pakistan. The whole thing became so real that the Pakistan army had to take defensive measures. In the event, the entire world was perturbed by India's strange style of muscle-flexing and scaring neighbours into political submission.

Zarb-e-Momin is meant to try out new weapon systems and mobilisation of a large force under a new battle strategy. The exercise will move 200,000 soldiers, for the

first time testing the ability of command and organisation of the Pakistan army at so realistic a level. Keeping in view the lack of territorial depth of the country, the strategy is to develop the ability of preemption. As explained by COAS [Chief of Army Staff] of the Pakistan army, the exercise, which will be seen by observers from many friendly countries, will not be a gesture of boastfulness. As opposed to the extravaganza of Brasstacks, which soaked up Rs. 3,000 crores from the Indian budget, Zarb-e-Momin will be financed by Rs. 16 crores, 10 crores out of which will go into looking after the war machinery and six as compensation to the property and crops destroyed in the exercise area. After nearly 35 years, this is the first military exercise testing the mettle of our army. It has become possible only after General Beg and his colleagues decided last year to take the army's finger out of the civilian pie and devote their energies to neglected professionalism.

Parliament Proceedings Viewed

46000003b Lahore *THE PAKISTAN VIEWS*
in English 29 Sep 89 p 7

[Article by Sadiq Jafri]

[Text] The scene in the National Assembly is getting mundane. The top leaders refrain from participating in the business. Back-benchers remain almost isolated. As a result, it is only over a dozen persons, on both sides, who keep the House busy.

Filibustering is the name of the game. On Thursday, the longest discussed issue was as to whether the Ministers should sit on the seats other than those allotted to them. Many "experts" took part in the argument. It is unnecessary to repeat the result.

The half an hour fixed for adjournment motions was spent by some Members who wanted their motions to be taken out of turn. This deprived the Members whose motions had already been admitted from taking their turn.

Token walk-outs marked the proceedings on Thursday. The Opposition walked out to lodge its protest against the Speaker's refusal to take a motion regarding the hunger strike of a labor leader, out of turn.

The MQM [Muhajir Qaumi Movement] MNA [Member of National Assembly]s were next to repeat the activity. They wanted the House to discuss a motion on a newspaper report. A Karachi policeman, the report had stated, had called the MQM a "terrorist organization". This should be given top priority, they said. We are not a terrorist organization, they maintained.

What? Who said it was the biggest joke of the year? No. I did not say that. I firmly believe that a coward journalist is much better than a dead journalist.

Anyway, the MQM's walk-out pleased many. This will gradually result in the break-up of Karachi Accord. That,

in turn, will mean MQM joining COP [Combined Opposition Parties]. Which, in turn, will mean... Well, if wishes were bank loans...

But in fact this "hope" to get to the good old days of dictatorship back is something which has marred the democratic scene. Half of the House is not interested in the real business. They want to create more and more ugly scenes, only to prove that the nation does not deserve democracy. The reasons for this are too obvious to be repeated.

The question, nevertheless, is: who is keeping their hopes alive? There has to be someone. Otherwise they would have tried to concentrate on politics.

All these things were discussed by observers in the galleries. This may be totally or partly right, but the fact is that both the sides, the treasury benches and the Opposition, will have to think about it. Obviously, the people of Pakistan did not wait for 11 years to vote only to know how the upstart-with-a-wig uttered indecencies in the House, or, how the bearded filibuster spoke sentences which had dual meanings.

Experts believe that in the present situation it is difficult for the Parliament to get into legislative business. PPP [Pakistan People's Party] has a majority in the National Assembly and IJI [Islamic Jamhoori Ittehad] overwhelmingly dominates the Senate. Any bill presented by one side is bound to be blocked by the other one.

A "national consensus" is the only possible solution. But who is going to do it? Obviously not those who are waiting for democracy to go back! Who, then?

Nine-Party Alliance Formed

46000005a Karachi THE MUSLIM
in English 23 Sep 89 p 1

[Text] Lahore, Sept 22: A new national alliance of comparatively less popular nine political parties was formed here today to achieve the objectives of what they termed as implementation of Nizam-i-Mustafa in the country.

This was announced by Khan Mohammad Ashraf Khan, leader of Khaksar Tehrik at a Press conference. He said this alliance was different in composition from the PNA [Pakistan National Alliance] of 1973 which was deserted by its prominent figures.

The leaders of other eight parties present in the Press conference were Chaudhry Sanaullah Bhutta of Majlis Ahrar-i-Islam, Hafiz Arif Salman Ropri of Jamaat Ahle Hadith, Riaz Qarshi of Pakistan Inquilab Party, Mian Masood Ahmad of Jamiat Ulema-i-Pakistan (Dastoori Group), Syed Mohammad Sabir Jafferri of Nizam-i-Islam Party, Mian Irshad Ahmad of Mohajir Rabita Council, Sahibzada Waheed Subhani of Tehrik-i-Ittehad-i-Millat and Qari Ghulam Murtaza Rabbani of Tanzim-i-Azadi-i-Kashmir.

The new alliance parties also laid out their ten point manifesto. Ashraf Khan of Khaksar Tehrik said that the Punjab government of IJI [Islamic Jamhoori Ittehad], which had announced its programme of Islamization had deviated from its path and was practically engaged in confrontation with the federal government. He condemned both political groups which, he said, were responsible for creating such a situation.

The Press conference, which was being attended by several ranks of Khaksar Tehrik was disrupted when a Khaksar leader, Latif Butt said that the PPP [Pakistan People's Party] government was not responsible for this situation.

Hafiz Arif Salman Ropri of Jamaat Ahle Hadith broke into and declared that the alliance sided with the Punjab government, making the first split in the alliance there and then.

Later, several political workers invited in the Press conference started criticizing newsmen for not giving proper coverage to their leaders.—APP

Leader Explains Sindh National Alliance

46000001c Karachi DAWN in English 19 Sep 89 p 3

[Text] Larkana, Sept 18: Mr Mumtaz Ali Bhutto, Chairman, Sindh National Front (SNF), said on Sunday evening that the present structure of Sindh National Alliance (SNA) which emerged after its 15th September session in village Baito was not in any sense elected nor did it represent the will of the component political organizations.

Addressing his party workers in Jacobabad, he said, "that is the reason we kept ourselves away from it".

However, he clarified, because of personal relations with Rais Abdul Hamid Jatoti, the SNF has nominated one member to the SNA.

To a question he said, we don't go for offices but had always stood for securing the genuine rights of Sindh from the united forum of nationalists.

He said the SNF had endorsed the seven points of Sindh National Alliance where we had advocated a confederal system.

He said there was no question of his party entering into any alliance with the PPP [Pakistan People's Party] or IJI [Islamic Jamhoori Ittehad].

Criticizing the arrest of Akram Abro, district president of SNF in Jacobabad, and other workers without any FIR, he warned the government to desist from such actions.

Later Mumtaz ali Bhutto met the arrested party workers in CIA [Central Intelligence Agency] Police Station, Jacobabad.

National Assembly Quadiani Seat

46000003c Lahore *THE PAKISTAN TIMES*
in English 2 Oct 89 p 2

[Text] Islamabad—Malik Bashiruddin Khalid has returned to the seat reserved for the Quadiani group in the national Assembly, according to a notification of the Election Commission.—APP.

Assembly Repeals Martial Law Regulation

46000005c Karachi *THE MUSLIM*
in English 22 Sep 89 pp 1, 6

[Text] Islamabad, Sept 21: The National Assembly today passed a bill repealing the martial law Regulation No 60 which was issued on Jan 29, 1984 for imposing total ban on the student unions in the Islamabad capital territory.

The Minister of State for Education, Shahnaz Wazir Ali moved in the House a bill to repeal Martial Law Regulation No 60 (Repeal) Bill, 1989 as reported by the standing committee.

The bill will come into force at once.

Four ordinances and an annual report were also laid before the National Assembly by the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, Khawaya Tariq Rahim.

The ordinances included the Small Business Finance Corporation (Amendment) Ordinance, 1989 (VIII of 1989), the Criminal Law (amendment) Ordinance, 1989 (IX of 1989), Suppression of Terrorist Activities (Special Courts) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1989 (X of 1989) and Transfer of Managed Establishment (Amendment) Ordinance 1989 (XI of 1989).

The Minister also presented before the House a copy of the annual report on the observance and implementation of the principles of policy for the year 1986, as required under article 29(3) of the Constitution.

The House also condoned the delay in the presentation of the report of the standing committee on the bill further to amend the Pakistan International Airlines Corporation Act 1956 (the Pakistan International Airlines Corporation (Amendment) Bill 1989 till today). The report of the standing committee was then presented before the House.

The House was then adjourned by Ch. Amir Hussain who was in the chair, to meet again on Sept 24 at 5 p.m.

Qaumi Inqilabi Party To Fill Vacuum

46000012a Peshawar *THE FRONTIER POST*
in English 15 Sep 89 pp 6, 7

[Article by Jan Mohammad]

[Text] Usually, the arrival of a new party on the Pakistan political scene would not raise many eyebrows. It has become usual for people with limited or negligible mass following, but varying degrees of influence and

resources, to gather a few people and call themselves a party. While there is a plethora of politicians who aspire to leading political parties in their own right, there are few who are willing to serve under other. This egoistic approach has been the bane of the Left as well as the Right-wing parties. Hence the multitude of leader-oriented parties, the impetus for which comes from the top and which lack grassroots support.

Against this background, the unusual interest that has been generated by the launching of the Qaumi Inqilabi Party (QIP) can be put down to the air of expectancy that preceded it. Indeed, since June, when the main party of the Left, the ANP [Awami National Party], started the masses with an about-face march into the IJI [Islamic Jamhoori Ittehad] camp, there have been demands from several quarters for the formation of a new party. Basically, the upsurge of dissent within the ANP, which followed the alignment with IJI in NWFP [North-West Frontier Province] coalesced into two camps: there was a nationalist group who felt that the principles of Bacha Khan, to which the ANP claimed allegiance, had been betrayed by an alliance with the political descendants of the Muslim League—"the enemies of Pakhtoons," perpetrators of such atrocities as the Bhabra massacre of 1948, in which 600 of Bacha Khan's Khudai Khidmatgars lost their lives. The strength of feeling on this issue within the ANP can be gauged from the challenge put to Wali Khan by a party member on the occasion of the anniversary of that event, that what was the point of him observing it, having made an alliance with the IJI.

This group, in which veteran Khudai khidmatgar Ilyas Badshah was prominent, gathered around Wali Khan's brother, Ghani Khan, who subsequently announced the convening of a Loya Jirga to discuss the course of Pukhtoon politics following the ANP leadership's "abandonment of the path of Bacha Khan."

Another group of dissidents were the leftist elements of the ANP. It is this progressive group—led by the "gang of three" members of the ANP provincial working committee, Afrasiab Khattak, Latif Afridi and Syed Mukhtar Bacha, who resigned over the ANP-IJI alliance—that has been the driving force behind the Qaumi Inqilabi Party, due to be launched at a rally in Peshawar on September 14-15.

While some of the steam seems to have evaporated from Ghani Khan's call for a Loya Jirga, which was also due in September but which Ghani Khan last month admitted might be delayed until October or even "a little later," preparations for launching a new party of the Left have proceeded apace. Even before the three ANP rebels announced their resignation from the party, plans were being aired for the formation of a new Left grouping, after "consultation with like-minded people" around the country. Afrasiab Khattak has been particularly active in cultivating these contacts. Unlike the group centred on Ghani Khan, the campaign of the Leftist groups was not limited to Pukhtoons, but was country-wide. The attempt to create a new party of the Left which was

above nationalistic bounds amounted to treading fresh ground in Pakistan's politics. A concentrated effort was made to reassemble the scattered leftist forces. How far these have succeeded will emerge in the aftermath of the Peshawar meeting. One thing can be said with a relative degree of certainty: The conditions for an all-Pakistan alliance of the Left are more favourable than perhaps ever since Partition.

There are various reasons for this. For one, never since the formation of Pakistan has there been such an open political environment. This has enabled the leftist forces to come out of their various shells. There have been several causes of the chronic disunity that afflicted the Left: one of these was the restrictions on their political activity which forced them into working underground and aligning with various nationalist parties. This factor contributed to the fragmentation of the Left into various splinter groups, factions and one-man parties. The end result was that, despite a host of parties upholding left-wing policies, in effect there was a vacuum on the left of the Pakistan political spectrum.

It is only natural, therefore, that one of the main aims of the Qaumi Inqilabi Party should be to strengthen the present democratic process in the country. This is consistent with one of the main causes of the estrangement from the ANP: It was felt that by aligning with the "remnants of martial law," the ANP leadership, while espousing democratic values, had in effect weakened the cause of democracy in the country. The counter-charge which was levelled by Wali Khan at the ANP rebels, that they had played a prominent role in forging the party's previous coalition in NWFP with PPP [Pakistan People's Party], so why should they object to an alliance with IJI, only goes to emphasise the fact that in the eyes of the disaffected elements, alignment with PPP was in the interests of democracy, while to join hands with the IJI amounted to a weakening of the democratic process.

Another factor which makes the present climate ideally suitable for the emergence of a united Left is the Afghanistan issue. Over the last decade, one thing that the entire range of leftist parties have had in common has been support for the Afghan revolution. Since the withdrawal of Soviet troops from that country and the consolidation of the PDPA [People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan] government in Kabul, this support has become more vocal and self-assured. The spokesman of this pro-Afghanistan movement had always been Wali Khan. This also changed with the ANP-IJI alliance. The effectiveness of Wali Khan's pronouncements on the Afghan issue, which previously carried tremendous weight, was inevitably compromised by the ANP leader's alignment with the very forces which were calling the armed opposition to Najib's government a "Jihad," urging recognition of the interim government of Afghanistan formed in Islamabad and—at a recent IJI meeting in Peshawar—[word indistinct] the main perpetrator of the Afghan war, the late Zia-ul-Haq, "hero of the Afghan war." The movement for peace in Afghanistan, which enjoys tremendous and emotive support across the entire

range of leftist forces throughout Pakistan, and especially amongst Pukhtoons, stood in need of a new voice to express its feelings. Here again there is a vacuum for the QIP leadership to fill.

The formation of QIP does not represent the first attempt to unite the forces of the Left. The launching of the ANP in 1986 represented such an attempt. While Wali Khan is at present busy re-establishing his nationalist credentials and disdaining leftist tendencies, it should not be forgotten that prior to the 1988 elections he repeatedly described the ANP as a grand alliance of leftist forces, "an ideological party" committed to secular and socialist principles. The fact that he now confesses to be happy over the departure of "communist elements" from his party is itself evidence of the need for a new party to promote the cause for which the ANP came into existence.

Whether QIP will succeed where others have failed is something only time will tell. Some say that if the dissident ANP men had been bent on forging Left unity, they would have joined forces with one of the host of leftist parties that already existed, instead of going out on a limb on their own. This is countered by the observation that the existing parties were already prey to chronic disunity: having failed to unite the Left in the past, there was no reason why they should succeed now, given the dogmatic and egoistic attitude of their leaders. The advantage which the QIP has over other leftist parties is that its leadership is not encumbered by the feuds and factions which in the past bedeviled the Left. Furthermore, in the spirit of Perestroika and Glasnost, the new party has shown a willingness to learn from past mistakes and shed the dogmatic approach which prevented the Left from adapting to objective conditions. There is a tremendous amount of work for the new party to do: towards strengthening democracy, working for peace in the region and shaking off the yoke of foreign domination which has prevented successive governments from pursuing truly independent domestic and foreign policies. That said, it is time to leave the stage to QIP and see if they can fulfill their role.

Junejo Says Midterm Elections Are Imminent

46000006b Karachi DAWN in English 11 Sep 89 p 12

[Text] Sukkur, Sept 10: Former Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo said midterm election is imminent and the PPP [Pakistan People's Party] is busy making preparations for it.

Talking to a delegation of the Muslim Leaguers from Upper Sindh in Sindhri on Saturday, he said the PPP government is intentionally creating disruption and its policies are against the unity and overall interest of the nation.

He further said people have been let down by the ruling party and it would not be able to gain even 15 percent of the seats in the coming elections.

The Muslim League chief, however, thought the Punjab Chief Minister was struggling for safeguarding the national integrity and for promoting democratic norms.

He further urged the patriotic forces to cooperate Mr Sharif.

He denied reports about differences between Nawaz Sharif and himself, saying the PPP's propaganda cell was spreading false news.

Mr Junejo said just after the PPP's coming into power the provinces' relations with the Center are deteriorating, adding the Muslim League could only protect national integrity.

Autonomy, Other Senate Proceedings Discussed

46000002c Karachi DAWN in English 19 Sep 89 p 8

[Article by Anis Mirza]

[Text] Islamabad, Sept 18: As a member of the caretaker cabinet of President Zia, Mir Hazar Khan Bijarani, barely participated in parliamentary proceedings. Returned on the Muslim League ticket, Hazar Khan never appeared as a classic adherent of either the IJI [Islamic Jamhoori Ittehad] or the Muslim League. A former President of the Sindh PPP [Pakistan People's Party], he resigned from the People's Party in 1987. But the quiet reticent Bijarani, attired in a steel-grey safari suit, on Monday evening emerged in the Senate as a spokesman of the demand for provincial autonomy. His 30-minute extempore oration in Urdu, was a comprehensive historical analysis of the 4-decade cry, for greater autonomy to the federating units.

It was private members day and Mir Hazar Khan took the floor on a motion which sought to discuss the effective implementation of the quantum of provincial autonomy assured under the 1973 Constitution. A former student of Political Science of Karachi University, the 42-year-old landlord from Jacobabad, first recapitulated the concept of autonomy conceived in the 1940 Pakistan Resolution and the 1956 Constitution. Vested Interests in Pakistan he said deliberately did not allow the demand for autonomy to gain momentum.

Unfolding some of the provisions of the 1973 Constitution, Mir Hazar Khan Bijarani said the setting up of the Senate, the Council of Common Interests the National Economic Council and the National Finance Commission were important provisions. Yet he said the spirit and substance of the 1973 Constitution were never implemented. As Senators listened in pin-drop silence, Bijarani a former Minister for Health and Housing added: "The Council of Common Interest has neither been constituted nor called. The 1974 award of the National Finance Commission still continues. Assurances that the Concurrent List would be made a Residuary List in 10 years had not been implemented.

Hazar Khan who has a Law degree from Karachi's S.M. Law College, pointed to the burgeoning influx of people

in Sindh, the giving away of valuable barrage lands to generals and civil servants and the spiral of unemployment among educated Sindhis. He criticized the usurpation of gas and oil revenues in Sindh and Balochistan by the Center and the encroachment of the People's Programme. Bijarani proposed that provincial languages be given a national status so that there was inter-provincial understanding. His speech was received with warm applause by the Senators. When he moved into the lobby, people came to congratulate him on his down-to-earth discourse.

An adjournment motion moved by Professor Khurshid Ahmed, Senator Tariq Chaudhry and Senator Fasih Iqbal on the arrest of Zahid Malik, Editor of Hurmat and the Pakistan Observer, was pursued with considerable zeal. They argued that the arrest of Zahid Malik and his interrogation by the FIA [Federal Investigation Agency], was a violation of ethics of freedom of the Press. The ruling of the chairman was deferred.

Several Senators wanted to discuss Indo-Pakistan relations and the Afghanistan policy of the Benazir Government. They charged that there were signs of a detrimental change in stance. Sahabzada Yaqub Khan assured the members that there was no change in the Afghanistan policy and no compromise on disputed matters with India. The Foreign Minister said he would welcome a debate on Afghanistan, entry into the Commonwealth and Indo-Pakistan relations after his return from the United Nations session in New York.

Dadu Senator Ejaz Ali Jatoti rose several times and requested Chairman Wasim Sajjad that he be permitted to move a motion on the recent ethnic killings in Hyderabad. Mr Sajjad said since it was a private member's day the motion would be taken up in the next sitting of the Senate.

Senators Move for Motion on Provincial Autonomy

46000001d Karachi DAWN in English 19 Sep 89 p 8

[Text] Islamabad, Sept 18: Over 55 Senators have decided to move a motion in the Upper House of the Parliament demanding maximum provincial autonomy.

As many as 30 members of the Senate had signed a memorandum, seeking immediate moving of the motion to amend the constitution so that the real provincial autonomy could be offered to the provinces, in the light of the recommendation made by the then Movement for Restoration of Democracy (MRD).

Senator Ijaz Jatoti told DAWN here on Monday 30 more Senators would give their signatures on Tuesday so that the motion to amend the Constitution could be moved in the current session of the Senate.

The Senator from Sindh claimed to have mustered two thirds majority required to get the motion through and said "we have already done our home work seriously".

He pointed out he had also consulted many members of the national Assembly today in a bid to bring the motion simultaneously in both the Houses of the Parliament. "All the politicians and the legislators, who believe and talk about democracy have assured us to support the motion".

Mr Ijaz Jatoi said it would also be a "test case", for all those who always claimed the supporters believed in democratic decisions. He said draft of the motion to be moved, has been finalized with the consultations of the constitutions experts and lawyers of competence.

In this regard, he said former Law Minister Mr Abdul Hafeez Pirzada, was reaching in the Capital here on Tuesday to meet and discuss the issue threadbare.

He argued this time all the democratic forces should join hands for granting greater provincial autonomy to the Provinces. "Now the Punjab is also in the run which always discouraged the smaller Provinces over the issue." He said Punjab was asking for more powers like those of other three provinces, for which there should not be any hue and cry.

To a question, Senator Ijaz Jatoi said many of the members of the National Assembly and Senate would gather at his residence in the Capital on Tuesday to deliberate over the issue to adopt joint strategy in order to get the motion passed.

He said majority of the legislators fully believed that the center should have only four important portfolios and the rest be given to the Provinces.

In reply to a question Senator Jatoi pointed out it was high time to give maximum provincial autonomy to the provinces to avoid confrontation and help settle the economic issues. "There is no option left except to give more powers to Provinces to satisfy them and end all kind of confrontation and unrest going on for the last so many years".

Biharis' Return Opposed

46000004a Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES
in English 2 Oct 89 p 4

[Text] Lahore—Jiyae Punjab Tehrik has supported the demand of Makhdoom Khaliquzzman of PPP [Pakistan People's Party] in which he opposed the return of Biharis to Pakistan from Bangladesh.

Jiyae Punjab Tehrik said that Muhajirs have already created problems for Pakistan and violated our national identity. Jiyae Punjab Tehrik, Chairman Saifullah Saif said that the Biharis should be sent back to Bihar instead of Pakistan.

Ishaq Urges End To Protectionism in Technology

46000002b Karachi DAWN (Business Supplement)
in English 19 Sep 89 pp I, IV

[Text] Islamabad, Sept 18: President Ghulam Ishaq Khan on Monday called for an end to the "protectionism in technology" at international level and urged the

scientists and engineers to eschew the notion of what of late had come to be known as "high-tech jingoism".

Inaugurating the three-day international symposium on advanced materials here, the President said the world scientists and engineers must work to create techno-internationalism for the common good of mankind regardless of the frontiers that divided the world.

"We believe that science is an international activity, as the fruits of intellectual endeavors belong to humanity at large", he said, adding "those, who share this belief with us, we invite them to join hands with us and assist us in exploiting the tremendous potential of science and technology for the common good for our millions".

President Ishaq said that Pakistan, as a developing country, was poised for great leaps forward and had established recently a number of basic manufacturing units in the iron and steel sector, heavy engineering, energy and defence related projects. Further success and progress in these fields would, however, critically depend on "our indigenous capability to develop and use advanced materials suitable to its needs."

He said Pakistan has rich endowment of material resources with large reserves of ferrous and non-ferrous minerals. "We can boast of some of the best scientists and metallurgists", he said noting that "we utterly lack in sophisticated technology with shortage of resources required for mineral extraction, their processing and alloy formation. It is measure of our regrettable underdevelopment that while the number of alloys used in modern industry has far exceeded 10,000, Pakistan, except for brass in public sector, does not locally produce even one—not even commonly used alloy like stainless steel of standard specifications".

He regretted that Pakistan could not sustain even one plant that was established in the country, years ago, and through sheer neglect, among other factors, was allowed to die an economic death.

President Ishaq, however, noted that although the picture was even gloomier in the field of advanced materials, yet a modest beginning had been made in recent years to undertake research and development in this area.

But, he stressed, the facilities, established for this purpose, were "totally inadequate". He underscored the need of ending this handicap, "if our vision of technologically developed Pakistan is to come true".

The President, therefore, called for creation of dependable fund of local expertise in metallurgy and material science, along with facilities to put expert knowledge to practical application, if Pakistan was to enter the 21st century with confidence and promise.

He noted growing awareness in the country of the imperative need to set up, both in the public and private sectors, research facilities and institutions of higher learning in the field of science and technology. In this connection, he referred to the establishment of an

advanced institute of engineering sciences and technology at Topi, near Tarbela in the NWFP [North-West Frontier Province], which hopefully would start functioning in 1992.

Earlier, in his keynote address, Dr A.Q. Khan, Chairman of the symposium said "in my opinion, we have now entered into the advanced materials age, with rapid and multi-dimensional growth of high-tech industries continued expanding the role of advanced materials".

High strength and high temperature alloys, ceramics, composite and polymers were being developed to meet specific technical requirements, he said, adding that recent technological advances such as space shuttle, optical fibers and personal computers would not have been possible without availability of advanced materials.

He said that this international symposium on advanced materials was the first of its kind in Pakistan, when it was venturing into an era of expanded industrialization.

Dr Khan stressed that efforts should be devoted in Pakistani industry to develop and improve techniques to monitor and control the quality of materials being produced and stored.

Prof Dr Saleem Shuja, President, Pakistan Institute of Metallurgical Engineers, in his address of welcome, explained the main features of the symposium. He, however, called for better coordination between industry, universities and the national research institutes in the country.—APP.

Beg: Junejo Avoided Army Functions

46000006d Karachi THE MUSLIM
in English 22 Sep 89 p 1

[Text] Hyderabad, Sept 21: General Mirza Aslam Beg, Chief of the Army Staff, Thursday surprised a large gathering when he disclosed that his constant efforts for the last two years to request and persuade former Prime Minister of Pakistan to grace the Army function in the province of Sindh by his presence had produced no result.

Addressing the installation ceremony of Colonel Commandant of the Sindh Regiment, he, however, said, that it was Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto who had promptly obliged him by consenting to attend and perform the ceremony.

General Mirza Aslam Beg did not divulge the details as to what were the reasons which had prevented the former Prime Minister from attending any Army function, leaving everybody to guess, the difference between the nominated and people's elected Chief Executive of the country.—APP

Balochistan Chief Minister Alleges 'Constant Surveillance'

46000004b Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES
in English 2 Oct 89 p 4

[Text] Quetta—Balochistan Chief Minister Nawab Akbar Bugti has said that he was under constant surveillance by certain agencies.

Speaking to newsmen in his Provincial Assembly chamber after the session on Sunday, he said that his movements were monitored and telephone tapped by certain Intelligence agencies both in Balochistan and in any province wherever he went. Surveillance was more severe whenever he visited the Federal capital.

Narrating some interesting events, Mr Bugti said that before he took over as provincial Chief Minister he was in Lahore and Intelligence agencies personnel were following him in a car. Mr Bugti's car broke down. He said Intelligence personnel came to his rescue and gave him lift and dropped him at his destination.

Similarly, once the Intelligence personnel vehicle broke down without Mr Bugti's knowledge and when Mr Bugti arrived at his place of residence in Lahore Intelligence personnel approached him and asked him for details on his visit during their absence. He said he volunteered information to them.

Mr Bugti said that he was not daunted by surveillance because he was now used to it.—PPI.

Nawaz Deplores Violence in Sindh

46000001a Karachi DAWN in English 19 Sep 89 p 1

[Text] Karachi, Sept 18: Punjab Chief Minister Mian Nawaz Sharif Alleged on Monday that no serious effort had been made to stop violence in Sindh, saying: "I think it is a deliberate attempt to foment trouble so that PPP [Pakistan People's Party] should have a leverage and exploit the situation to prolong its rule".

He was talking to newsmen on arrival here from Lahore to meet PML [Pakistan Muslim League] Chief Mohammad Khan Junejo. He said one should ask why the Government had failed to control law and order situation in the province when the PPP had full mandate in Sindh along with the MQM [Muhajir Qaumi Movement].

The Sunday's incidents in Hyderabad were certainly harmful to national integrity, he said and alleged: "They were not being checked deliberately, although the law and order situation in other parts of the country was improving."

The Sindh Government suffered from a "lack of commitment" and besides, it was "totally ineffective", he claimed and said the PPP did not have the "requisite authority" or the will to control the situation.

Mr Sharif said a strong government could have solved the matter within three months and in this regard he referred to the recent statement of Gen Mirza Aslam Beg that the law and order in Sindh could be restored within 24 hours. He said Gen Beg had said this because he thought this could be done.

The Punjab Chief Minister denied there was any tussle between the Federal and Punjab Governments. He said: "It was a tussle between the Federal Government and the provinces". If both the parties accepted the public mandate, no confrontation would take place. The Federal government should change its policy and the matter would be resolved within 24 hours, he added. He said: "We made certain offers and some headway was made but the response from the Federal Government was negative."

Funds: Accusing the Federal Government of stopping the funds of two provinces, he said the "PPP Government has so far not reconciled itself to the position that in Punjab and Balochistan there were opposition governments and that is why the tussle is continuing."

He said unless a "patriotic government" was set up in the country, such conditions would prevail.

Asked what could be the solution of the problem, he said: "We should pray to God Almighty. When a person maintains an intransigent attitude, God may guide him."

Referring to the clashes among Islami Jamiat-t-Talaba and Muslim Students Federation in Punjab, he alleged that some "PPP elements" had penetrated among the student ranks and they were responsible for these clashes. He said some PPP men were deliberately interfering in the student affairs, but "we will fight them".

Mr Nawaz Sharif said he had no plans for the moment to visit the United States.

Delegation: A delegation comprising Yousuf Nadeem, Bahadur Ali Naqvi and M. Kamil Shaikh of the 'Movement for Restoration of Constitution 1973' met the Punjab Chief Minister here and discussed the political situation resulting from the 8th Amendment. Abdul Sattar Laleka, MNA [Member of National Assembly], was also present.

Analysis Urges New India Policy

46000002a Karachi DAWN in English 19 Sep 89 p 5

[Article by M.B. Naqvi]

[Text] Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto has been under fierce attack from the critics of her India policy, especially the IJI [Islamic Jamhoori Ittehad] leaders. This has become more bitter after last month's unsuccessful talks on Siachen Glacier at military officers' level. Much of this criticism has been blistering, some downright abusive. Chaudhry Shujaat Husain's was perhaps the most objectionable, indeed shockingly so. It does seem as if the PPP [Pakistan People's Party] Government has been

put on the defensive, while a relative deadlock in the normalization efforts continues.

Insofar as the Siachen dispute is concerned, it is hard to escape the conclusion that domestic political difficulties of both governments are responsible for lack of progress. Mr Rajiv Gandhi has been almost under siege from an opposition that is in full cry. India's general election is also round the corner. The hardliners there see no reason for India withdrawing its troops from positions of perceived advantage over the traditional adversary, even if the cost of holding them there is clearly prohibitive. Here in Pakistan, the very idea of improving ties with India is unwelcome to much of the Establishment.

Domestic troubles of both sides do matter. But longer-range interests of a nation demand both vision and doing all that may be necessary. For Pakistan this is a particularly difficult question because distinguishing policy from passion somehow seems to be a shocking idea. Beginning with the grievances over the Radcliffe Awards, Kashmir and Punjab rivers Water dispute, confrontation with India has been the order of the day for most of the 42 years of our independent existence. A change in the nature of relationship, no matter how rationally justified, seems like a betrayal of all one holds dear.

The fact of the matter is that conducting an India policy on the basis of an unthinking and permanently adversarial relationship can only result in more tension and conflict. We have already fought three full-scale wars with India and it is difficult to see how any of these has helped promote the national interests that Pakistanis feel are important. It is abundantly clear that continuing to follow this policy will, on the one hand, go on intensifying the cold war and the arms race in the subcontinent and, on the other, bankrupt this country's economy. And this would be the result without improving matters in respect of any particular national cause. Since the logical culmination of the old India policy was war with it, its scrapping becomes urgent the moment we come to the conclusion that another war would militate against Pakistan's best interests.

It is true that foreign policy as a whole has not been based on national consensus since 1953; subsequently it has always occasioned a polarization. Its overall orientation in respect of the relationship with the two superpowers was changed in 1954. From non-alignment the country moved total military commitment to the West. But the traditional India policy was incongruously tagged along with the new configuration of friendly relations with the US. Few Pakistanis have ever accepted the underlying philosophy of the Western attempt to throw a cordon sanitaire round the USSR and China: Communism and Russia supposedly had an inherent expansionist urge. Alignment with the West has remained unpopular with the people.

Pakistan's foreign policy (of aligning with the US and the West)—irrespective of its validity or appropriateness—has had two absolutely contradictory strands grafted on

to it. One of them was Pakistan's India policy, if it could be called a policy. It was one that simply did not match: the US has always been embarrassed by Pakistan's preoccupation with India. It has constantly advocated an improvement in India-Pakistan relations and has on several occasions punished Pakistan for misusing its aid in wars against India. Over time, it has been pushing Pakistan into arriving at some kind of a peaceful arrangement with India. But Pakistan has tried to be of some use to the US in order to obtain American military aid that it felt it needed to confront India (against US advice and wishes). This is a fundamentally untenable position.

The second incongruous of Pakistan's policy was that of befriending the People's Republic of China after having entered SEATO [Southeast Asia Treaty Organization]. That China welcomed it is a different matter and fits in with Beijing's short- and long-term foreign policy goals. Also, that it no longer seemed to be an anachronism after the 1972 Nixon visit to Beijing is yet again a different subject, not dependent on the virtues of Pakistan's policies. It is not necessary to go into the real motives of Pakistan's ties with China. The point is that Pakistan should have cultivated China for its own reasons rather to spite India or in contradiction to what some would hold to be the overall orientation of its foreign policy.

The natural policy for Pakistan was not, and is not, one of firm alignment with any great or superpower; the motive of obtaining aid apart, it has been based both on a wrong analysis of the global situation and on a totally cynical view of the world. What we need is a policy of peace for its own sake and for our own sake; we should not cultivate animosities and, based on mutual benefits and respect, we should work for good relations with all our neighbors. The foreign policy should have a nexus with one's own economic development and dictates of morality. Not that safeguarding national security is not the chief aim of foreign policy. But dependence on aid and support of a distant superpower, in the context of a confrontation with a richer and better-developed neighbor, cannot be sound strategy. If our policy of wresting Kashmir from India's hold requires the use of force, let us by all means use it if there is reasonable chance of success. Only, it should be based on our own resources. The borrowing and begging of swords is not an effective defence policy.

Pakistan needs to have a different India policy from the one it has followed so far for two good and solid reasons: one, and to repeat, the old policy has never really worked and would produce more frustration and, maybe, further losses, if we continue to follow it. Secondly, we need a policy of peace with all neighbors so that problems are resolved as they arise through peaceful means, without resort to hostilities, preferably not even of words. This is not based on any unrealistic expectation from the Indians; this is an unavoidable conclusion arrived at from a review of what we have tried to do and what concretely could thus be achieved.

This is not an advocacy of appeasement or surrender in the face of real aggression. The latter has to be resisted to the last man with all one has. But that would require a people-based defence, such as China was likely to offer if the US was foolish enough to attack in the 1950s and 1960s. A nation's security ought to be predicated not on a ballooning defence budget and a large standing army; preservation of freedom and assuring the nation's security is the obligation of all free citizens. National security to be effective has to be linked with the freedom and rights of citizens, on the one hand, and adequate local industrial development that can sustain one's own self-reliant defence production, on the other.

A nation that develops its own resources through mainly its own efforts and involves its citizens in all matters is much stronger nation against which no-heavily-armed aggressor dare commit aggression. The fundamental idea is that making Pakistan worth defending as the home of citizens enjoying freedom, equality and share in all decision-making, in addition to a people-based defence, would make it an impregnable fortress.

Historically, it has fallen to the PPP's lot to reverse the long-prevailing trend of India-Pakistan relations. The first PPP government under late Mr Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, with a consensus behind him, concluded the Simla Agreement. It is again for the second PPP government to start where the first PPP government had left off. It is important to recall that Mr Bhutto had come under attack from unthinking hardliners and he had adopted a defensive posture. Once he started retreating, he could take a stand nowhere and almost everything began to unravel. (It is true that there were several other strands in Mr Bhutto's retreat from his earlier positions but no one can deny that his political retreat did become a route).

The second and weaker PPP government too is facing the same severe test. This time it is only the possibility, perhaps likelihood, of a change in the pattern of India-Pakistan ties that has alarmed the critics. As noted, the initial reaction of the PPP high command is one of defensiveness. Should this defensiveness result in a retreat, it could be disastrous. A leadership is supposed to lead. To be sure, its lead has to be based on fresh thinking and sound reasoning. It need not mean that a leader has to be out of tune with the mood of his people. If he is too ahead of times he will find himself isolated. Hence the process of adopting a new policy ought to be an educational one. A leader who follows the prejudices and passions of the crowd can only lead the country to perdition. In our case, we have had a no-peace-no-war relationship with India for the last 24 years. Which is why P.M. Benazir Bhutto would be well-advised to retreat and press ahead with her normalization efforts, including a visit to India with only one proviso: Pakistan should be seen to be influencing India elections in any way.

The 11 years of Gen Zia's India policy, humiliating as they were, were a period of nothing much happening. India refused to do any serious political business with him because he represented nobody in Pakistan except a

fanatic fringe and some vested interests. The PPP government is perceived in India as a representative one with which it can make peace. But, as is the Indians' wont, they would do so through hard bargaining. Insofar as the preliminary objective or mere normalization of links is concerned, it is a near-term objective of no great consequence. We shall be reverting to a position that obtained on the eve of the second India-Pakistan War in 1965, if full normalization of relations were to take place. That in fact would not effect any fundamental change, through it would give intimations of what improvements are possible and how.

The Pakistan Government cannot for a moment forget that there are many outstanding problems between the two countries. The list of which is fairly well-known. Rationality compels the conclusion that an unthinking adherence to the path of aloofness and confrontation sustains the familiar enmity and more of it will, without solving any problems, make for more conflict and eventual wars.

A new longer-term relationship is necessary. The question arises: how would the problems be solved, if we forego the option of going to war? Well, that is the challenge: let us resort to an exercise of diplomacy and use of political skill. There is also the verity of a just cause motivating rational people into discovering ways and means of achieving it. A reliance on indigenous diplomacy is a more reliable guide to action than depending upon imported guns.

End of Bonded Labor System Urged

46000001b Karachi DAWN in English
19 Sep 89 pp 1, 3

[Text] Lahore, Sept 18: The Bonded Labor Liberation Front of Pakistan (BLLFP) and the All Pakistan Bhatta Mazdoor Mahaz (PBMM), in collaboration with some political parties, held a countrywide Bhatta Mazdoor convention at Iqbal Park, under the Minar-i-Pakistan here on Monday to mark the first anniversary of the Supreme Court judgement on bonded labor. The convention was attended by thousands of men, women and children of the working class, enslaved in bonded labor all over the country.

The convention, the first-ever and the biggest of its kind, was a show of discipline and strength by thousands of bonded laborers, who arrived at the venue on buses from all corners of the country and kept pouring in, in hundreds, till it ended in the afternoon.

The Supreme Court of Pakistan, on Sept 18, 1988, pronounced its judgement on the illegality of the bonded labor system in the country and the entanglements of the advance payment system, keeping indebted generations of the bonded laborers.

The convention, termed as the "first anniversary of the independence" of millions of bonded laborers throughout the country, was a test of patience of those who had lived

their lives in chains at brick-kilns and coal-mines, as they stood calmly for about six hours of the convention under the scorching sun, without water and shelter.

Besides the speeches by the convention delegates and office-bearers of the BLLFP and the PBMM, Mr Ghulam Nabi Kallu, President of the Pakistan Mazdoor Kisan Party; and Mr Hameeduddin Ahmad Almashriqi, the President of the Khaksar Tehrik, also addressed the meeting.

Mr Kallu, in his speech, said that Bhatta Mazdoor, who made bricks and built houses, were "not allowed to live in sheltered premises, but in the open, and that, too, in chains, made to dance naked at police stations, exploited by the brick-kiln owners, and kept hungry". This, he added, was all that Bhatta Mazdoor got in reward for ages of bonded labor.

Mr Hameeduddin Almashriqi said that the advent of the democratic era in the country had secured freedom for everybody and the "bonded laborers should no more remain an exception to this provision."

Addressing the convention, advocate Asma Jehangir, a staunch Human Rights activist, said that the year-old Supreme Court verdict on bonded labor did not mean total liberty for millions of bonded laborers in the country. The constitutionally provisioned end to the exploitation of bonded laborer at the hands of the owner of his or her working premises, she added, was yet to be announced.

Thanking the Federal Minister for expeditiously drafting a Bill concerning legislation by the National Assembly of the anti-bonded labor laws, she warned the legislators that each and every MNA [Member of National Assembly], who would vote against the anti-bonded labor Bill, would be held responsible by the Bonded Labor Liberation Front of Pakistan, the Pakistan Bhatta Mazdoor Mahaz and all Human Rights organizations in the country.

Addressing the convention, the BLLFP and PBMM President, Mr Ehsanullah Khan, said that if the Bill was not passed by the National Assembly, the bonded laborers would surround the Parliament House and the "protectors of the anti-humanistic exploiters".

Though it was the first anniversary of "our independence," he told the mostly illiterate bonded laborers, yet millions "are still enslaved in bonded labor in the country even today, while two million families are working and living under sub-human conditions only at brick-kilns in the four provinces.

Demanding that a legal end be put to bonded labor at the earliest, he also called upon the Government to arrange for the rehabilitation of millions of the exploited bonded laborers and their families.

The convention also passed a number of resolutions which included: and to all kinds of bonded labor in industries such as brick-kilns, mines, carpet-making, shoe-making, fisheries, powerloom industry and others; bonded laborers be given back their moveable and

immoveable property allegedly forfeited their owners, and their so-called loans and advance payments be written off; education, health and other basic facilities be provided to the families of bonded laborers; child labor be practically declared illegal in the country and the laborers be made to work under service conditions as agreed and signed by Pakistan in the International Labor Organization rules.

After the convention, thousands of participants took out a protest procession from Minar-i-Pakistan and marched upto Faisal Chowk on The Mall to press the National Legislature to pass the Anti-bonded Labor Bill at the earliest.

Later, the processionists dispersed peacefully.

Iqbal Park, it may be added, was allowed by the city Assistant Commissioner and the Lahore Development Authority to be used by the BLLFP and the PBMM as the venue for the convention, but nor shelter, or water, was provided, or arranged, for the thousands of men, women and children participants.

University-Industry Council To Be Established

46000006c Karachi DAWN in English 11 Sep 89 p 9

[Text] Karachi, Sept 10: The NEI University plans to set up a joint university-industry council to establish a link between technological institution and requirements of the industry. It will also provide research facilities to the industry.

The proposed council would comprise the Vice-Chancellor, the President of the Federation of Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the President Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and the chairman of Pakistan Steel Corporation, Science and Economic Council, PERAC [Petroleum Refining & Petrochemical Corporation], PACO [Pakistan Automobile Corporation], PICIC [Pakistan Industrial Credit & Investment Corporation], NDFC [National Development Finance Corporation] and Bankers Equity.

A preliminary meeting in this connection was held a few months back and another is scheduled next month to prepare a draft constitution of the council, NED [National Education Degree?] sources said on Tuesday.

According to the Vice-Chancellor, Dr Jameel Ahmed Khan, the main purpose of the proposed council is to provide an impetus to the research activity on the campus. "The research work done at the University is often of immediate and vital importance to the industry in relation to product development, particularly in the high technology area. Applied research has wide applications in the industry and hence collaboration between the university and the industry is necessary", Dr Jamil said.

The university syllabus and curriculum would be improved and a direct feedback from the industry would be sought to improve the research, he said.

Commentary Examines QIP, PPP Positions

46000005b Karachi THE MUSLIM
in English 23 Sep 89 p 6

[Article by Rahimullah Yusufzai]

[Text] Peshawar, Sept 22: Leaders of the newly-formed Qaumi Inquilabi Party (QIP) have said they had neither met Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto nor their politics was subservient to the PPP [Pakistan People's Party]. Addressing a Press conference in Peshawar, the QIP Central Secretary General Afrasiab Khattak claimed propaganda against his party of being a "B" team of PPP was politically motivated and baseless. He said QIP had nothing to hide and nothing to lose and would never practice duplicity and drawing-room politics.

Flanked by QIP Pakhtoonkhwa organizer Latif Afridi and central steering committee members Mira Khan Mandokhel and Syed Mukhtiar Bacha, the 39-year-old Afrasiab Khattak wondered why and how their opponents were accusing them of being Soviet and American agents. He felt it be-spoke of the mental bankruptcy of their former colleagues in ANP [Awami National Party] and explained how contradictory and confused they had become after entering into an unnatural alliance with IJI [Islami Jamhoori Ittehad]. "As far as we are concerned, we are nobody's agents except the people of Pakistan", remarked the young QIP leader.

Mr Khattak refuted the impression that this leftist group in ANP had secretly met in an expensive hotel in Mingora, Swat in April and decided to form their own party. He argued that ANP was formed out of the merger of four progressive and nationalist parties who agreed on its democratic and anti-imperialist character and these factions occasionally met to discuss party and national politics. He maintained that charge against them for having violated ANP discipline and exploiting the party's alliance with IJI to quit in keeping with their earlier decision in Swat were all part of a disinformation campaign to hide the truth. He stressed that the major reason for resigning from ANP and forming their own party was the abandoning of the principles on which ANP was formed. He argued that the party leadership in Pakhtoonkhwa was not empowered to enter into an alliance with IJI, following the central executive decision never to join hands with the Official Muslim League and Jamaat-i-Islami.

Afrasiab Khattak decried the PPP government's Afghan policy and called upon it to break itself free of late Gen Zia's flawed and pro-imperialist foreign policy. He expressed concern over the increasing American interference in Pakistan's affairs and commented that U.S. Ambassador Robert Oakley acted as if he was a Viceroy. He said only a broadbased government formed through a dialogue could restore durable peace in Afghanistan. Supply of lethal weapons by CIA [Central Intelligence Agency] through Pakistani soil would only lead to further bloodshed of innocent Afghans.

The QIP Secretary General stressed for unity of democratic forces to foil conspiracies by the left-overs of dictatorship to torpedo the democratic system by paving the way for the President to initiate a similar action which late Gen Zia took to dismiss Mr Junejo's government. He also urged government to take measures to check price hike and put an end to loadshedding in rural areas. He backed the demand of school teachers for better wages and also demanded opening of the Zhob-Dera Ismail Khan road linking NWFP [North-West Frontier Province] with Balochistan.

Mr Khattak also highlighted the salient features of QIP programme and said it stood for an exploitation-free society, provincial autonomy, equal rights to the five nationalities, i.e., Punjabis, Sindhis, Pakhtoons, Baloch and Seraiki, decentralized local government, cheap and quick justice, agricultural and industrial revolution and anti-imperialism. He announced that QIP would treat Pakhtion areas of Balochistan as part of Pakhtoonkhwa province and Seraiki a separate unit from Punjab. He also disclosed that Arbab Khawhar from Sindh had been elected central deputy secretary general of the party. Central committee's commissioners for international relations, ideology, education, religious and minorities affairs, information, labor, students and culture had also been constituted.

Commentary Views Political Process

46000003a Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES
in English 29 Sep 89 p 6

[Article by I. A. Rehman]

[Text] Is Pakistan really facing the kind of political crisis reflected in the newspapers, especially the vernacular press, over the past many days? Even if a small part of the statements issued from various sides and analyses of the political situation is to be believed the democratic experiment should have fizzled out quite a few days ago. However, most of the alarms appear to be false.

For instance, take the hullabaloo over the opposition plans for a no-confidence move against the Prime Minister. On the one hand the opposition stalwarts have been denying any such move and on the other they have been feeding the rumor-mongers with stories to the effect that not only have preparations for a no-confidence motion been finalized but the success of the effort is assured. Retired as well as active mentors of the opposition have been summoned to hold hush-hush meetings to strengthen the impression that earth-shaking developments are imminent.

The fact is that the opposition's wishes to see Ms Benazir Bhutto's majority in the National Assembly eroded have not materialized. The operation has failed. In fact, it never got going. The Prime Minister retains a comfortable majority in the house. The entire game of speculation has been based on the possibility of the MQM [Muhajir Qaumi Movement] and FATA [Federally Administered Tribal Areas] members of the National

Assembly abandoning their support to the government. Both groups have firmly repudiated all such suggestions. Their affirmation of support to Ms Bhutto is plausible because they need an understanding with the PPP [Pakistan People's Party] and its government for both short and long-term interests.

Besides, it is no secret that if MQM and FATA members join the attempt to topple the federal government it will mean cancellation by the establishment of its decisions of November-December last. It will amount to a calculated decision to alter course before the democratic system has been given a fair trial. And there is nothing to warrant such a drastic action. Moreover, no viable alternative is in sight. There is, therefore, no point in scaring the people with tales about the federal government's instability.

Likewise, the noisy debate over the possibility and consequences of the Punjab Assembly being dissolved makes little sense. True, the Punjab government has carried its defiance of the federal authority and its contemptuous disregard for the Constitution to a point that punitive action against it may appear justified to some people. But the matter has important political aspects and there is no reason to believe that the center has run out of options for dealing with the situation or that it will choose a course that could enable the Punjab's ruling party to appear in the garb of a political martyr.

It is quite possible that the whole propaganda about the center's imagined moves has been designed to paint the leading figures of the IJI [Islamic Jamhoori Ittehad] as victims of political revenge before they are called to account for the privileges enjoyed during the past many years. Their desire to hide the anxiety over Mr Khar's rapprochement with the PPP leadership and the threat he may pose to the IJI in the feudal belt of the province, and to overcome the setback caused to their camp by the filthy speeches made at Mochi Gate on September 11 is fairly obvious.

What the recent confusion has brought into focus is the functioning of the system inherited from the past regime. The impression sought to be created is that both the federal and the Punjab governments need the counsel and practical assistance of the silent (or not so quiet?) third party. May be, this is what the tension artificially created over the past nine months has been all about. One cannot blink at the reality repeatedly highlighted that the essential confrontation is neither between PPP and IJI, nor between the center and the provinces, but between the forces tenaciously defending the old system and the logic of the democratic experiment which cannot continue without gradually enlarging the area of parliamentary rule.

This confrontation is not likely to be resolved soon but this should not cause worry so long as movement towards realization of the democratic goals continues. This does not mean that the people have nothing to worry about, only that instability of governments is not

cause for concern. The real reason for threat to the political process.

issue is that the present confrontation is on the people do not consider vital national are not prepared to believe that the detainer governor on a criminal charge, or the a case against a federal minister, or the beverage factory on suspicions of tax evading and transfers of civil servants are issues the future of democracy should be risked. When there is little doubt about the priority national agenda—satisfaction of people's of a just and equitable socio-economic ation of the Constitution of 1973, new wards evolving a genuine federal arrangement no unit has any legitimate grievance, steps nomy from debilitating dependence and to oreign policy in national interest, and the political institutions and conventions that protection against disruption of the demo-

shows that political adversaries must fight but they must learn to do so on issues of n. The main question in a democracy is not power but how and to what purpose this or sought.

t the present drift is causing is that the very democratic governance is being discredited. man is receiving the impression that the iticians are concerned only with their personal interests. Growing public disgust with me and frustration over non-realization of ations could generate a depoliticization ver again. The danger calls for positive patriotic and democratic segments of responsibilities of the parties in power are ch greater.

ervations whether IJI can be considered as option. Its creed is a dangerous mix of, adventurism in external relations, ill-infinity with praetorian forces, and naked be to the good of the country if IJI could

develop into something more presentable than a conglomerate of vested interests and offer a political programme worthy of the people's respect in a modern, egalitarian set-up. After all, it cannot seek mass support without contributing to the political process.

Far greater is the need for PPP to play its role in saving the political process. This is demanded by its own interest. In stagnant politics, interest groups such as banded together in IJI, can survive but not a party that has aroused expectations of some change and which must in the final analysis derive strength from the masses.

Two arguments can be given in defending PPP against the public complaint that it has not done as much for the common man's uplift as was expected—that the circumstances have reduced its options and that the system within which it has been obliged to work seriously hampers its freedom of action. Enough has not been done to convey the message to the masses. Oral statements there have been—and far too many—but the party has to demonstrate through tangible effort that where there is no forward movement the reason is neither lack of will.

The only way this can be done is to take legislative and political initiatives. There is pressing need for legislation to abolish bonded labor and the contract system in the industry, to reduce the arbitrary powers of the police and patwari over the population, to increase the role of local bodies and their responsibilities in the social sector, to increase employers' contribution to employees' housing, to democratize education and make it adequate to meet the challenges of the 21st century, to tighten up anti-drug, anti-vice measures, to reduce the inequalities under which the womenfolk have been groaning to save the land reforms, to free the judiciary of the confusion caused by the creation of a parallel judicial system, to undo the distortions caused by the Eighth Amendment, to redefine the jurisdiction of provinces, etc., etc.

The view that some of the measures, especially constitutional legislation, may not get through the Parliament in the present situation should not be allowed to delay a start. Let there at least be a public debate on these initiatives. If something promises the people relief or progress they will find ways of dealing with the forces of obstruction. There will be something relevant and worthy of being inscribed on the banners when the time for reference to the people comes.

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